

# Table of Contents

B2HAPPDoc8-002 DPO Applicant Comment_IPC Stokes 2019-06-20 to 08-22	15
B2HAPPDoc8-003 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Baker County Kerns 2019-08-22	89
B2HAPPDoc8-004 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Baker County Bennet 2019-06-19	96
B2HAPPDoc8-005 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_ Baker County Nichols 2019-06-19	100
B2HAPPDoc8-006 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Morrow County McLane 2019-08-22	103
B2HAPPDoc8-007 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Umatilla County Waldher 2019-08-21	107
B2HAPPDoc8-008 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Union County Hartel et al 2019-07-10 to 08-21	110
B2HAPPDoc8-009 DPO Special Advisory Group Comment_Malheur County Evans 2019-08-21	116
B2HAPPDoc8-010 DPO Agency Comment_ City of La Grande Clements 2019-06-20	122
B2HAPPDoc8-011 DPO Agency Comment_City of La Grande Strobe 2019-08-21	127
B2HAPPDoc8-012 DPO Agency Comment_ODEQ Breuner 2019-07-22	133
B2HAPPDoc8-013 DPO Agency Comment_ODFW Reif 2019-08-21	135
B2HAPPDoc8-014 DPO Agency Comment_ODOT Davis 2019-07-23	144
B2HAPPDoc8-015 DPO Public Comment_Albers 2019-08-22	159
B2HAPPDoc8-016 DPO Public Comment_Albright 2019-08-16	164
B2HAPPDoc8-017 DPO Public Comment_Aldrich 2019-08-12	167
B2HAPPDoc8-018 DPO Public Comment_Allen Rita 2019-08-15	168
B2HAPPDoc8-019 DPO Public Comment_Allen Ronnie 2019-06-20 to 08-19	237
B2HAPPDoc8-020 DPO Public Comment_Allen Ruby 2019-08-19	309
B2HAPPDoc8-021 DPO Public Comment_Anderson C 2019-08-22	315
B2HAPPDoc8-022 DPO Public Comment_Anderson J 2019-06-20 to 08-22	317
B2HAPPDoc8-023 DPO Public Comment_Anderson L 2019-08-22	324
B2HAPPDoc8-024 DPO Public Comment_Anderson M 2019-08-22	327
B2HAPPDoc8-025 DPO Public Comment_Anderson S 2019-08-21	330
B2HAPPDoc8-026 DPO Public Comment_Andrew C 2019-08-21	331
B2HAPPDoc8-027 DPO Public Comment_Anolfo 2019-08-18	334
B2HAPPDoc8-028 DPO Public Comment_Antell 2019-08-22	335
B2HAPPDoc8-029 DPO Public Comment_Archer A J R R 08-22	342

## TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE

---

**From:** Stokes, Mark <MStokes@idahopower.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 3:14 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Cc:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE; Stanish, David  
**Subject:** Idaho Power's Comments on the B2H DPO  
**Attachments:** B2H - Idaho Power's Comments on DPO.PDF

Kellen:

Enclosed with this email, please find Idaho Power's comments on ODOE's Draft Proposed Order (DPO) for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line project. Idaho Power appreciates the hard work ODOE has put into drafting the DPO, and looks forward to continuing to engage with ODOE and stakeholders in the next phases of the siting process for the B2H Project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

**Mark Stokes**

ENGINEERING PROJECT LEADER

Idaho Power Company

Work (208) 388-2483 | Cell (208) 863-0043

[mstokes@idahopower.com](mailto:mstokes@idahopower.com)

---

**IDAHO POWER LEGAL DISCLAIMER**

This transmission may contain information that is privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained herein (including any reliance thereon) is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you received this transmission in error, please immediately contact the sender and destroy the material in its entirety, whether in electronic or hard copy format. Thank you.

---



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

<b>DPO Page #</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Proposed Edit</b>
Page 4	Typo	For additional discussion of the comparison between the <del>deferral</del> <u>federal</u> NEPA review and permitting process and the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council's review and permitting process see section III.A, <i>Transmission Corridor Selection</i> , of this order.
Page 39	Typo	The applicant proposes four pulling and tensioning sites to include light-duty fly yards. The counties in which the light-duty fly <del>years</del> <u>yards</u> are proposed to be located are Umatilla, Baker and Malheur counties.
Page 41	Typo	Under ORS 469.503, to issue a site certificate, the Council shall determine that the preponderance of evidence on the record supports <u>findings</u> that the facility complies with the applicable standards adopted by the Council.
Page 52	Certain of this information may be considered confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information or confidential business information, and therefore, the condition language should specify that submittal to the identified entities may require procedures designed to protect that confidentiality—e.g., non-disclosure agreements. Idaho Power proposes additional condition language referencing those procedures, language that ODOE has used in other proposed conditions.	Recommended General of Review Standard Condition 5: The certificate holder shall submit, <u>subject to confidential material submission procedures</u> , a legal description of the site to the Department, Malheur County Planning Department, Baker County Planning Department, Union County Planning Department, Umatilla County Planning Department, and Morrow County Planning Department within 90 days after beginning operation of the facility.
Page 54	Throughout the DPO there are conditions relating to the finalization of the draft plans, including mitigation plans, which are submitted to the Department for approval in consultation with certain reviewing agencies (e.g., ODFW, SHPO, county planning departments, or other agencies). These proposed conditions, however, generally do not address the timing associated with this review and consultation by ODOE and reviewing agencies, except that in most cases the plans need to be finalized before construction may begin. To ensure that review and approval of these plans does not unreasonably delay the commencement of construction, Idaho Power requests that ODOE recommend a	Idaho Power proposes that ODOE add the following discussion on or about Page 54 following Recommended General Standard of Review Condition 10:  <u>Throughout the DPO there are conditions relating to the finalization of certain draft plans, including mitigation plans, which will be submitted to the Department for approval in consultation with the appropriate reviewing agencies. To ensure timely review and approval of these plans in a manner that does not unreasonably delay the commencement of construction, the Department proposes the following condition:</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	new condition that clarifies the duration of review and consultation process, and specifies procedures if the reviewing agency declines to timely comment.	<u>Recommended General of Review Standard Condition 11: For draft plans that require final review by the Department and/or consultation with counties or reviewing agencies, such review and consultation will not unreasonably delay approval of the final plan, and in any event, such review and consultation will be completed by the Department and the identified counties/reviewing agencies within 60 days.</u>
Page 54	If ODOE adopts Idaho Power's proposal to add a condition describing the plan review process, ODOE should update the condition numbering accordingly.  There are also two typos in the condition language.	Recommended General Standard of Review Condition <del>11</del> <u>12</u> : Subject to conditions of the site certificate, the certificate holder may construct the facility anywhere within the site boundary (approved corridor(s)), and as described in ASC Exhibit B and represented in ASC Exhibit C Attachment C-2 and C-3 mapsets. The approved corridors include: a. The proposed route in Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur counties;
Page 59	Typo	These inspections are conducted from either the ground or air and are designed to ensure the integrity of the system by identifying obvious line threatening defects. Emergency line patrols are performed in response to any unexplained system outage or interruption, or whenever requested by a dispatcher, to identify a major structural failures or issues.
Pages 59-60	Certain of this information may be considered confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information or confidential business information, and therefore, the condition language should specify that submittal to the identified entities may require procedures designed to protect that confidentiality—e.g., non-disclosure agreements. Idaho Power proposes additional condition language referencing those procedures, language that ODOE has used in other proposed conditions.	Recommended Organizational Expertise Condition 1: During operations, the certificate holder shall provide, <u>subject to confidential material submission procedures</u> , documentation of inspection, including date inspection(s) occurred, issues identified, and any corrective actions taken, within the annual report submitted to the Department pursuant to OAR 345-026-0080 (1)(b), for the following: . . .
Pages 60-61	Because ODOE is requesting information related to a very discrete contract provision and the remainder of the contract would be irrelevant to this request and likely to include	Recommended Organizational Expertise Condition 4: Prior to construction, the certificate holder shall contractually require all construction contractors and subcontractors involved in

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>confidential business information, Idaho Power requests that ODOE amend the condition to require a copy only of the contract terms that are directly related to legal and site certificate compliance.</p> <p>Idaho Power also requests ODOE make clear that Idaho Power's contractors, on Idaho Power's behalf, may perform the site certificate condition requirements.</p>	<p>the construction of the facility to comply with all applicable laws and regulations and with the terms and conditions of the site certificate. The certificate holder shall provide <u>to the Department</u> a copy of <del>executed contracts to the Department</del> <u>the executed contract terms requiring legal/site certificate compliance</u>. Copies of <u>the relevant</u> contracts <u>terms</u> may redact business confidential information. <u>The contractors, on behalf of the certificate holder, may perform the requirements set forth in these site certificate conditions. However, such performance, and Such such</u> contractual provisions, shall not relieve the site certificate holder of responsibility under the site certificate.</p>
Page 62	Typo/clarification	<p>None of the possible issues identified in the audits presented a material risk to the bulk electric system, <u>nor</u> were <del>they not</del> associated with a transmission service interruption, and <u>nor</u> did they adversely impact distribution customers</p>
Page 63	Typo	<p>The applicant <del>sites</del> <u>states</u> that it settled the citations with OSHA.</p>
Page 76	<p>The introductory phrase stating "Prior to construction" seems unnecessary given the timing references that follow that phrase (i.e., "At least 90 days prior to construction").</p> <p>And typos</p>	<p>Recommended Structural Standard Condition 1: <del>Prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility:</del></p> <p>a. At least 90-days (<del>delete dash</del>) prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility, unless otherwise agreed to by the Department, the certificate holder shall submit an investigation plan for the pre-construction site-specific geologic and geotechnical investigation to the Department for review in consultation with DOGAMI. The investigation plan shall specify the investigation methods to be used to evaluate site-specific seismic and non-seismic hazards identified in (b) of this condition and should, at a minimum, be consistent with the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners Guideline for Preparing Engineering Geologic Reports and include methods for literature review, geotechnical field exploration program, laboratory testing, mapping and detailed site reconnaissance.</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p>b. At least 90-days (<del>delete dash</del>) prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility, unless otherwise agreed to <del>bye by</del> the Department, the certificate holder shall submit to the Department and DOGAMI a pre-construction site-specific geological and geotechnical investigation report (report) for review, demonstrating that the facility site has been adequately characterized and the facility and temporary construction activities, such as blasting, have been designed and located to avoid seismic, soil and geologic hazards. The report shall at a minimum include information derived from the geological and geotechnical investigations regarding:</p> <p>...</p> <p>4. Potential slope instability and landslide hazards based on boring locations spaced approximately 1 mile along the alignment <del>and</del> at dead-end structures; any corners or changes in alignment heading (angles); crossings of highways, major roads, rivers, railroads, and utilities as power transmission lines, natural gas pipelines, and canals; and, locations necessary to verify lithologic changes and/or geologic hazards such as landslides, steep slopes, or soft soil area.</p>
Page 84	Typo	Increased wildfire and forest disturbances may result in decreased vegetative cover on <del>sleep steep</del> slopes, thereby increasing runoff and erosion rates.
Page 84	Typo	The Department notes that these mitigation measures <del>includes include</del> measures to reduce the risks posed by flooding, soil erosion, landslides, and mass wasting events.
Page 103, Table LU-1, Footnote 1	Typo	Specifically, MCZO Sections 3.010(C) (utility and transmission towers), (G) (dimensional standards) and (H) (yard setbacks) were omitted because under ORS 215.283(1)( <del>g</del> ), a utility facility necessary for public service is permitted subject only to the requirements of ORS 215.275 and the county cannot impose additional approval criteria; ORS 215.283 and 215.275 requirements are addressed later in this order.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 105	Typo	In addition <del>al</del> to the 500 kV transmission line, proposed facility components within EFU zoned land would include . . . .
Page 105	Idaho Power requests that ODOE remove the term “conditional” because, as ODOE states in the paragraph following this one, the County’s conditional use requirements are not applicable.	Based on review of the referenced court decision and historic Council land use evaluations, the Department agrees and recommends Council find that proposed and alternative facility components should be evaluated as a utility facility necessary for public service and therefore would be a <del>conditionally</del> permitted use in EFU zoned land under MCZO Section 3.010(D)(17).
	Typo	Notwithstanding the language in the County’s code, the conditional use requirements beyond those that are consistent with ORS 215.275 are not applicable to proposed and alternative facility components because, as a utility facility necessary for public service under ORS 215.283(1 ) <del>(g)</del> , the use is permitted subject only to the requirements of ORS 215.275 and the county cannot impose additional approval criteria.
Page 105-106	<p>ODOE’s citation to ORS 215.296 appears to be an error. ORS 215.296 applies to uses allowed under ORS 215.213(2) and (11), and ORS 215.283(2) and (4). Here, the project is authorized under (1) of those statutes as a “utility facility necessary for public service,” and not under ORS 215.213(2) or (11), or ORS 215.283(2) or (4). Therefore, ORS 215.296 does not apply to this project. In its place, Idaho Power suggests that ODOE may have meant to reference ORS 215.275(5), which discusses accepted farm practices similar to ORS 215.296. Consider substituting in ORS 215.275(5) or eliminating it altogether since ORS 215.275, without the subsection, is already included.</p> <p>Also, ODOE should include a footnote recognizing that Idaho Power did a county-specific analysis for each county, showing the Project must cross EFU, even though such analysis was not required.</p>	<p>For facility components located in EFU zoned land, the land use compliance evaluation is limited to ORS 215.275, as presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215.<del>296</del><u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order. <a href="#"><u>Footnote</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Footnote: Although beyond what is required to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275, the applicant performed a county-specific alternatives analysis for each county in its Exhibit K. Please refer to Exhibit K, Section 6.4.5 for additional information specific to Morrow County.</u></a></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 109	Typo	If the corridor is a <del>18</del> State Highway, use ODOT standards. (MC-C-8-98)
Page 114	Confusing text	Based on this evaluation, four Goal 5 stream/riparian resources would be located on private/state land within the proposed site boundary including: Butter Creek, Matlock Canyon Creek, Little Butter Creek, and Sand Hollow Creek; and two Goal 5 habitat and wildlife related resources would be located on federally-owned (public) land within the site boundary including: Naval Weapons System Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman and certain Washington ground squirrel (WAGS) habitat, which are two resources <u>that overlap geographically and are both designated as a Goal 5 resource for the protection of WAGS habitat but are basically one in the same (i.e. the Goal 5 resource identified as “certain WAGS habitat” is located within the NWSTF Boardman site and the NWSTF Boardman site is a Goal 5 resource for WAGS habitat).</u>
Page 116	Typo	Based on the proposed construction activity, and the presumed basis of Goal 5 protection as an important water/riparian area, potential impacts from stream crossings and road modifications would result from permanent and temporary removal and fill; and, erosion and vegetation disturbance impacts associated with the temporary <del>steam</del> <u>stream</u> crossings.
Page 121	Clarification	Recommended Land Use Condition 1: ... c. During construction, the certificate holder shall comply with <u>the</u> conditions of permits <u>and consultation requirements</u> listed in (a) and (b), <u>and if applicable, (d).</u>
Page 127	Typo  Also, ODOE should include at least a footnote recognizing that Idaho Power did a county-specific analysis for each county, showing the Project must cross EFU, even though such analysis was not required.	Therefore, for these locations, the land use compliance evaluation is limited to ORS 215.275, as presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order. <u>Footnote</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>Footnote: Although beyond what is required to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275, the applicant performed a county-specific alternatives analysis for each county in its Exhibit K. Please refer to Exhibit K, Section 6.5.5 for additional information specific to Umatilla County.</u>
Page 127	ODOE should recognize that the Umatilla County Planning Department directed Idaho Power to treat the GZ Zone as Goal 4 forest lands.	Proposed facility components would be located on forested lands within the GF zone, <u>and the Umatilla County Planning Department directed the applicant to analyze the proposed facility in the GF zone as being in Goal 4 forest lands.</u>
Page 128	Typos  And clarifications	The Department agrees and recommends Council conclude that UCDC 152. <del>10</del> 85(R) does not apply to facility components proposed to be located in GF zoned land. However, it is noted that in the absence of UCDC 152. <del>10</del> 85(R), there are no land use categories within UCDC 152. <del>10</del> 85 for the proposed facility. However, <u>in the absence of applicable local substantive criteria, state rules apply. ,because Because the facility components are proposed to be located in forest land, OAR Chapter 660, Division 006 would apply. In particular,</u> LCDC Chapter 660 establishes authorized uses within forest lands as inclusive of transmission lines within a 100 foot right-of-way, state rules would apply directly.
Page 142	Typo	Based on the analysis provided in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> of this order and ASC Exhibit K Section 4.0, Section 6.5.2.1, Section 6.5.2.2, and Section 6.5.5, the Department recommends Council find that construction and operation of the proposed facility would not significantly impact accepted farm practices, including costs.
Page 144	Clarifying that Oregon Forest Practices Act compliance applies only to those roads within designated forest land.	Recommended Land Use Condition 4: Prior to construction of any phase or segment of facility components in Umatilla County, the certificate holder shall work with the Public Works Department on building standards for the road improvements and construction, and <u>for any roads proposed</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>to be constructed in forest land in Umatilla County, the certificate holder</u> will ensure road construction is consistent with the Oregon Forest Practices Act.
Page 144	Clarification	Recommended Land Use Condition 5: ... iii. Within the transmission line right-of-way, a maximum of 25% of existing natural vegetation along streams, lakes, and wetlands may be removed, unless <u>removal of a greater quantity of vegetation is</u> necessary
Page 149	Typo	Notwithstanding the language in the County's code, the conditional use requirements beyond those that are consistent with ORS 215.275 are not applicable to proposed facility components because, as a utility facility necessary for public service under ORS 215.283(1)(g), the use is permitted subject only to the requirements of ORS 215.275 and the county cannot impose additional approval criteria.
Page 150	Typo  Also, ODOE should include at least a footnote recognizing that Idaho Power did a county-specific analysis for each county, showing the Project must cross EFU, even though such analysis was not required.	Therefore, for these locations, the land use compliance evaluation is limited to ORS 215.275, as presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order. <sup>Footnote</sup>  <u>Footnote: Although beyond what is required to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275, the applicant performed a county-specific alternatives analysis for each county in its Exhibit K. Please refer to Exhibit K, Section 6.6.5 for additional information specific to Union County.</u>
Page 150	ODOE should recognize that the Union County Planning Department directed this analysis.	<u>For the A-2 zone, the Union County Planning Department directed the applicant to perform a predominant use analysis to determine whether the land within the site boundary is rangeland or cropland.</u> The applicant provides an analysis of the predominant use within the parcels crossed by the proposed facility in the A-2 zone, based on taxlot data from



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		the county, soil type data from SSURGO, and 2011 aerial photography.
Page 151	Typo	The evaluation of whether the proposed facility is necessary for public service is provided in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order.
Page 153	ODOE should recognize that the Union County Planning Department directed this analysis.	<u>For the A-4 zone, the Union County Planning Department directed the applicant to perform a predominant use analysis to determine whether the land within in the site boundary is rangeland or forest land.</u> The applicant provides an analysis of the predominant uses within the parcels crossed by the proposed facility in the A-4 zone, based on taxlot data from the county, soil type data from SSURGO, and 2011 aerial photography.
Pages 153-154	Typo  And clarification linking conclusion to the analysis in the next paragraph.	For the proposed and alternative facility components located within forestland portions of the A-4 zone, the county code refers to OAR Chapter 660 Division 6 – which is evaluated in Section IV.E.2.2. ORS <u>552772</u> .210 and OAR 660-006-0025 of this order. <u>Based on the evaluation presented in Section IV.E.2.2. of this order, the Department recommends Council find that the proposed and alternative facility is consistent with OAR Chapter 660, Division 6 and is, therefore, allowed on the predominantly forestland portions of the A-4 zone.</u>
Page 154	Typo	Based on the evaluation presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order, the Department recommends Council find that the proposed and alternative facility satisfies the ORS 215.275(2) factors and is, therefore, allowed on the predominantly farmland portions of the A-4 zone.
Pages 155-156	Clarification	UCZPSO 5.04(3) Criteria 1 and 2 mirror OAR 660-006-0025(4)(q), which is evaluated in Section IV.E.2.2. ORS 772.210 and OAR 660-006-0025 of this order. UCZPSO 5.04(3) Criteria 3 applies to home occupations, parks and

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		campgrounds and temporary hardship dwellings, and therefore because these uses do not <del>cover</del> <u>apply to</u> new electrical transmission lines, would not apply to the proposed facility.
Page 170	Typo	Recommended Land Use Condition 7: ... i. All signage shall comply with the provision <u>s</u> of UCZPSO 5.08.
Page 173	For Morrow, Umatilla, Union, and Malheur counties, ODOE included a description of the ancillary facilities, but did not include similar discussion for Baker County. ODOE should include that discussion for consistency and to help the reader.  And typo	As described above, proposed facility components within Baker County's EFU zone include 69.2 miles of 500 kV transmission line. <u>The applicant identifies that ancillary facilities to the proposed transmission line located within EFU-zoned land would include and</u> five multi-use areas, one light-duty fly yard and two communication stations. <u>The applicant asserts that ancillary facilities, based on a 2001 and 2005 court decision, should be considered under the "utility facility necessary for public service" land use category.</u> <sup>Footnote</sup> <u>Based on review of the referenced court decision and historic Council land use evaluations, the Department agrees and recommends Council find that proposed facility components should be evaluated as ,which the Department recommends Council find would be</u> a major utility facility and therefore <u>would be</u> a conditionally permitted use within EFU zoned land under BCZSO Section 301.02(D). However, notwithstanding the language in the County's code, the conditional use requirements beyond those that are consistent with ORS 215.275 are not applicable to proposed facility components because, as a utility facility necessary for public service under ORS 215.283(1)( <del>g</del> ), the use is permitted subject only to the requirements of ORS 215.275 and the county cannot impose additional approval criteria.  <u>Footnote: See Save Our Rural Or. v. Energy Facility Siting Council, 339 Or. 353, 384 (2005) (upholding Council's</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>determination that ancillary facilities are considered “utility facilities necessary for public service”); Cox v. Polk County, 174 Or. Ct. App. 332, 343-44 (2001) (“utility facilities necessary for public service” may include ancillary or off-site equipment).</u>
Page 173	<p>Typo</p> <p>Also, ODOE should include at least a footnote recognizing that Idaho Power did a county-specific analysis for each county, showing the Project must cross EFU, even though such analysis was not required.</p>	<p>Therefore, for these locations, the land use compliance evaluation is limited to ORS 215.275, as presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215.296(5) (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order. <u>Footnote</u></p> <p><u>Footnote: Although beyond what is required to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275, the applicant performed a county-specific alternatives analysis for each county in its Exhibit K. Please refer to Exhibit K, Section 6.8.5 for additional information specific to Baker County.</u></p>
Page 178	Typo	The proposed facility and site boundary would be located within Baker County’s Big Game Overlay zone and could potentially impact several scenic resources protected under the Baker County Comprehensive Plan Goal 5 Resources element.
Page 178	Typo	Proposed facility components in Baker County would predominately be located in EFU zoned land, <del>which</del> <u>with</u> a small segment (0.2 miles) of a substantially modified road to be located in RSA zoned land.
Page 179	Typos	However, the impact assessment is not evaluated in this section because, in the absence of a county adopted protective program for these resources, there <del>is</del> <u>are no</u> applicable criteria <del>for</del> <u>by</u> which to evaluate the potential impacts.
Page 180	Typo	Baker County implements a Weed Control Plan based on statutory requirements <del>for</del> imposed under ORS 569.530 through ORS 569.450.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 184-185	Proposed language is similar to language provided for other counties. ODOE should include this language for consistency.	<p>The Department agrees and recommends Council find that the proposed facility components located in EFU and ERU-zoned land would be a use permitted outright under MCC 6-3A-2.</p> <p><u>Proposed facility components would be located in EFU-zoned land across five Oregon counties including Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur. Therefore, for these locations, the land use compliance evaluation is limited to ORS 215.275, as presented in Section IV.E.2.1., ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215.276 (Exclusive Farm Use Requirements) of this order.</u> <sup>Footnote</sup></p> <p><u>Footnote: Although beyond what is required to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275, the applicant performed a county-specific alternatives analysis for each county in its Exhibit K. Please refer to Exhibit K, Section 6.10.5 for additional information specific to Malheur County.</u></p>
Pages 190-191	ODOE should add a discussion regarding the NPZO Dimensional Standards, which are addressed in the application and Recommended Land Use Condition 13.	<p><u>NPZO 4.03: Dimensional Standards</u></p> <p><u><i>In the (C-2) Commercial Interchange Zone, yards shall be maintained as follows: 1. There shall be a front yard of at least thirty (30) feet. 2. There shall be no side yard setback except at least twenty (20) feet when adjacent to a Residential Zone, or on the street side of a corner lot. 3. There shall be no rear yard setback, except at least twenty (20) feet when adjacent to a Residential Zone. 4. No buildings or structure hereafter erected or enlarged shall exceed a height of forty-five (45) feet.</i></u></p> <p><u>Dimensional standards are not evaluated as applicable substantive criteria; however, it is noted that the applicant evaluates these criteria and represents that the proposed</u></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>facilities will comply with NPZO 4.03(1) and (4), and that NPZO 4.03(2) and (3) are not applicable because the proposed facility is not adjacent to a Residential Zone. Based on the Department's review, the Department considers the applicant's analysis to demonstrate consistency with these provisions.</u>
Page 193	Typo	There are no alternative routes or facility component locations proposed within City of Huntington.
Page 195, Subheading	Typo	IV.E.2.1. ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> (Exclusive Farm Use Zone Requirements)
Page 195	Typos  Clarification	Statutes which apply directly to the proposed facility include ORS 215.275, <del>and 215.283, and;</del> ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> <del>has been adopted by the applicable counties, but because it is the same criteria across counties, is addressed in this section.</del>
Page 196	Clarifications	ORS 215.275(2)(a) <del>requires</del> <u>provides</u> that, <del>in order to site the proposed facility on EFU-zoned land,</del> the applicant <u>may</u> demonstrate that the proposed facility must be sited in an EFU zone due to technical and engineering feasibility constraints.
Page 197	Clarifications	The applicant did not provide examples or present a discussion of geophysical areas that would present technical or engineering feasibility constraints; as such, the Department recommends that the Council find that <del>the applicant would not satisfy technical and engineering feasibility as described in</del> ORS 215.275(2)(a) <u>was not the primary driver for siting the project on EFU-zoned land.</u>
Page 197	Typo  Clarification	As demonstrated in ASC <del>Figure Exhibit</del> <u>Figure Exhibit</u> K, Figure K-3, a large portion of the area between the two points of interconnection is EFU zoned land, <u>and the applicant explains in ASC Exhibit B that EFU lands cover approximately 77 percent of the seven-county study area in Oregon.</u>
Page 197	Clarifications, providing added support for ODOE's conclusions regarding avoidance of EFU lands	Because large areas of EFU zoned lands exist between the two points of interconnection, it would be impossible to construct the proposed facility while avoiding all EFU zoned

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order

		<p>lands (with the exception that the transmission line would be required to completely bypass Oregon and travel only within Washington and Idaho states).<sup><a href="#">Footnote</a></sup></p> <p><u>Footnote: The applicant developed a conceptual EFU-avoidance route shown in ASC Exhibit K, Figure K-3, which demonstrates that the shortest route that would avoid all EFU lands would be required to bypass Oregon entirely and is not a reasonably direct route.</u></p> <p>Given that large areas of EFU zoned land exist between the two proposed transmission endpoints, the Department agrees that there would be no reasonably direct route that would allow the applicant to construct the transmission line while also avoiding all impacts to EFU zoned land. As such, the Department recommends that the Council find the associated transmission line is “locationally dependent” and therefore satisfies ORS 215.275(2)(b).</p> <p><u>Additionally, while the facility is “locationally dependent” and avoidance of EFU was not possible, the applicant represents that it attempted to design the proposed route to avoid lands zoned EFU to the maximum extent practicable. Although not required by ORS 215.275, the applicant represents that its extensive siting process prioritized avoiding impacts to irrigated and other high value farmland to the maximum extent practicable. As explained in detail in ASC Exhibit B, Attachment B-1, Appendix C, IPC identified irrigated farmland as a “high avoidance” constraint throughout its siting process. Nonetheless, the applicant had to balance minimizing impacts to EFU with avoiding impacts to the many protected resources in the study area (which are discussed in detail in ASC Exhibit B). The applicant represents that it continued to refine its proposed route in response to site-specific</u></p>
--	--	--

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><u>information and landowner requests; and many of these micrositing changes included changes to minimize impacts to irrigated agriculture and agricultural operations. For example, an earlier version of the proposed route crossed 17.8 mile of irrigated farmland, and the current version of the proposed route crosses 6.6 miles of irrigated farmland.</u><sup>Footnote</sup></p> <p><u>Footnote: The applicant represents that it endeavored to further reduce impacts to agricultural land by developing the West of Bombing Range Road Alternative (see ASC Exhibit B, Attachment B-4, 2015 Supplemental Siting Study). Working with BPA and the Navy, the applicant developed the West of Bombing Range Road Alternative, which takes advantage of an existing 69-kV transmission line ROW and was sited to minimize impacts to agriculture and NWSTF Boardman flight operations, and reduce impacts to WAGS habitat (through micrositing). The West of Bombing Range Road Alternative significantly reduced, but did not completely eliminate, impacts to agricultural lands and operations.</u></p>
Page 197	Clarification	<p>ORS 215.275(2)(c) <del>requires</del> <u>provides</u> that, <del>in order to site the proposed facility on EFU-zoned land,</del> the applicant <u>may</u> demonstrate that the proposed facility must be sited on EFU zoned land due to a lack of available urban and nonresource lands.</p>
Page 198	Clarification	<p>ORS 215.275(2)(d) <del>requires</del> <u>provides</u> that, <del>in order to site the proposed facility on EFU-zoned land,</del> the applicant <u>may</u> demonstrate that the proposed facility must be sited in EFU zoned land in order to utilize existing rights-of-way</p>
Page 198	Typo Clarification	<p>ORS 215.275(<del>12</del>)(e) provides that <del>if</del> the applicant <del>may can</del> demonstrate <u>that the proposed facility must be sited in EFU zoned land due to</u> specific health and safety reasons <del>that would require the siting of the utility facility on EFU-zoned</del></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<del>land, then the applicant meets its regulatory burden under the statute and may site the utility facility on EFU-zoned land.</del>
Page 199	Clarification	As such, the Department recommends that the Council find <del>the that public health and safety concerns in accordance with ORS 215.275(2)(e) were not the primary drivers for siting the</del> proposed transmission line <del>is not required to be sited</del> on EFU zoned land <del>to specifically respond to a public health or safety concern and therefore would not satisfy the criteria under ORS 215.275(1)(e).</del>
Page 199	Typo  Clarification	ORS 215.275( <del>12</del> )(f) provides that if the applicant <del>may can</del> demonstrate that <u>the proposed facility must be sited in EFU zoned land if</u> there are specific requirements imposed by state or federal agencies that would require the siting of the utility facility on EFU zoned land, <del>then the applicant meets its regulatory burden under the statute and may site the utility facility on EFU-zoned land.</del>
Page 199	Typo	As such, the Department recommends that the Council find the proposed transmission line is not required to be sited on EFU zoned land to comply with additional state or federal requirements and therefore would not satisfy the criteria under ORS 215.275( <del>12</del> )(f).
Page 199	Idaho Power requests ODOE move its <i>215.275 Conclusion</i> section to the end of the alternatives analysis, because the conclusion addresses the subsection (2) alternatives analysis and not the other subsections of ORS 215.275.	<u>215.275(2) Conclusion</u>  <u>As noted above, the applicant is required to meet one of the factors provided in subsection (2) to demonstrate compliance with ORS 215.275. The Department recommends that the Council find that the proposed facility is “locationally dependent” and that the applicant demonstrated that there is a “lack of available urban or nonresource lands” upon which to site the proposed facility, and that siting was driven in part by the “availability of existing rights-of-way.” Therefore, the Department recommends Council find that the proposed facility would satisfy three of the factors set forth in</u>



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>subsection (2) and therefore demonstrates that the utility facility must be sited on EFU zoned land.</u>
Page 199	Missing subheading, request adding subheadings for each subsection of ORS 215.275	<u>Restoration</u>  Under ORS 215.275(4), the owners of a utility facility must be responsible for restoring, as nearly as possible, to its former condition, any agricultural land and associated improvements that are damaged or otherwise disturbed.
Page 200	Typos	Specific measures to minimize and mitigate agricultural impacts <del>in each County</del> , and recommended conditions to ensure compliance with those measures, are discussed below in the evaluation of compliance with <del>each County's land use criteria</del> <u>ORS 215.275(5)</u> .
Page 200	Idaho Power requests ODOE move this discussion from the <i>EFU Zoned Land Restoration</i> section to here because it seems more relevant to the (4) analysis.	<u>The applicant is required to minimize impacts to farming practices; the applicant must restore lands to a useful, nonhazardous condition and; the applicant must maintain a bond or letter of credit in the unlikely scenario that a third party would be required to decommission the facility and return lands to a pre-construction condition. As such, the applicant has provided the relevant information and the conditions contained within Section IV.G., Retirement and Financial Assurance would ensure that the applicant restores agricultural lands.</u>
Page 200	Missing subheading, request adding subheadings for each subsection of ORS 215.275  Clarification	<u>Mitigation of Impacts to Surrounding Agricultural Land</u>  ORS 215.275(5) requires that the reviewing body impose clear and objective conditions of approval on the application to mitigate the impacts <u>of the proposed facility, if any, on surrounding lands devoted to farm use in order to prevent a significant change in accepted farm practices or a significant increase in the cost of farm practices on the surrounding farmlands.</u>
Page 200	Redundant text	Recommended Land Use Condition 14: <del>The certificate holder shall:</del>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p>a. Prior to construction of any phase or segment of the facility, the certificate holder submit to the Department a final Agricultural Assessment and Mitigation Plan (based on the draft plan included as Attachment K-1 of the Final Order on the ASC) for review and approval, in consultation with Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker and Malheur counties.</p> <p>b. During construction of any phase or segment of the facility, the certificate holder shall implement the mitigation, monitoring and reporting measures as detailed in the final Agricultural Assessment and Mitigation Plan.</p>
Pages 201-202	Idaho Power suggests that ODOE re-write the <i>Accepted Farm Practices on Surrounding Lands</i> section, replacing it with a discussion directed at ORS 275(5) rather than ORS 215.296, which doesn't apply to the project.	<p><del>ORS 215.296 states:</del></p> <p><del>A use allowed under ORS 215.213 (Uses permitted in exclusive farm use zones in counties that adopted marginal lands system prior to 1993) (2) or (11) or 215.283 (Uses permitted in exclusive farm use zones in nonmarginal lands counties) (2) or (4) may be approved only where the local governing body or its designee finds that the use will not:</del></p> <p><del>i. Force a significant change in accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use; and</del></p> <p><del>ii. Significantly increase the cost of accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use."</del></p> <p><del>ORS 215.296(1) requires that the local governing body or its designate (in this instance the Council) may approve a use permitted under ORS 215.283(2) only when it determines that the use: "(a) Will not force a significant change in accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use; and (b) Will not significantly increase the cost of accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands devoted to farm or forest use."</del></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><del>ORS 215.296, which is mirrored in applicable county zoning provisions presented in this order, establishes approval standards for all conditional uses within EFU-zoned land and requires the Council to find that the conditional use would not force a significant change in, or significantly increase the cost of, accepted farm or forest practices on surrounding lands. While there are forest practices employed on surrounding lands in Umatilla and Union counties, the underlying land use zone in these counties is Grazing Farm and Timber Grazing, respectively, and not EFU. Therefore, the analysis focuses on potential impacts to farm practices and the cost of farm practices on surrounding lands in EFU zone.</del></p>
Page 205, Footnote 178	Typo	<p>The evaluation under ORS 215.283, 215.275, and <del>215.296</del><u>275(5)</u> is specific to EFU and Agriculture-Grazing.</p>
Page 208	Typo	<p>Potential impacts to the cost of accepted farm practices from construction and operation of the proposed facility include: a one-time costs to landowners, such as physical disturbance arising from the construction areas and roadways; annual costs, such as costs associated with weed control around towers and increased costs associated with farming around tower equipment; costs associated with land removed from production (other than areas containing a transmission tower), such as roadways or areas that are not readily irrigated due to field obstructions; costs associated with the disruption of a CRP program and; <del>(5)</del> costs associated with re-organizing irrigation systems.</p>
Page 209	Typo	<p>Based on the evaluation presented in ASC Exhibit K and reasoning and analysis presented in this order, and compliance with recommended Land Use Condition 14, the Department recommends Council find that the proposed facility would not result in significant adverse impacts to accepted farm practices nor result in a significant increase in the cost of accepted farm practices within the surrounding</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		area and therefore would satisfy the requirements of ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> .
Page 209	Add discussion on ORS 215.276 and new recommend land use condition regarding compliance with ORS 215.276.	<p><u>ORS 215.276 states:</u></p> <p><u>(1) As used in this section:</u></p> <p><u>(a) "Consult" means to make an effort to contact for purpose of notifying the record owner of the opportunity to meet.</u></p> <p><u>(b) "High-value farmland" has the meaning given that term in ORS 195.300.</u></p> <p><u>(c) "Transmission line" means a linear utility facility by which a utility provider transfers the utility product in bulk from a point of origin or generation, or between transfer stations, to the point at which the utility product is transferred to distribution lines for delivery to end users.</u></p> <p><u>(2) If the criteria described in ORS 215.275 for siting a utility facility on land zoned for exclusive farm use are met for a utility facility that is a transmission line, or if the criteria described in ORS 215.274 for siting an associated transmission line are met, the utility provider shall, after the route is approved by the siting authorities and before construction of the transmission line begins, consult the record owner of high-value farmland in the planned route for the purpose of locating and constructing the transmission line in a manner that minimizes the impact on farming operations on high-value farmland. If the record owner does not respond within two weeks after the first documented effort to consult the record owner, the utility provider shall notify the record owner by certified mail of the opportunity to consult. If the record owner does not respond within two weeks after the certified mail is sent, the utility provider has satisfied the provider's obligation to consult.</u></p> <p><u>(3) The requirement to consult under this section is in addition to and not in lieu of any other legally required consultation process.</u></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><u>The applicant represented in Exhibit K of the ASC that following issuance of the site certificate, it will consult with landowners of high-value farmland regarding micro siting of the transmission line within the site boundary as required by ORS 215.276(2) (see also Attachment K-1, Agricultural Lands Assessment). Additionally, the applicant represents that it will consult with all landowners regarding micro siting of the project.</u></p> <p><u>Recommended Land Use Condition ##: Prior to construction, the certificate holder shall consult with all landowners, including landowners of high-value farmland, regarding micro siting of the project.</u></p>
Page 209	Delete heading and related discussion related to ORS 772.210 as it is a condemnation statute and not a siting requirement. This comment would apply to other instances in the DPO where ODOE references Section IV.E.2.2 of the DPO	IV.E.2.2. <del>ORS 772.210 and</del> OAR 660-006-0025 (Forest Zone Requirements)
Page 209-210	Idaho Power finds that ODOE's summary of ORS 772.210 is confusing and appears to misstate the requirements of the statute. Idaho Power recommends that instead of paraphrasing the requirements of the statute, ODOE instead include excerpts of relevant provisions of the statute.	<p>OAR 660-006-0025(4)(q) references transmission lines within a 100-foot right-of-way as a conditional use authorized in forest zoned land. <u>ORS 772.210 provides:</u></p> <p><u>(1) Any public utility, electrical cooperative association or transmission company may: . . . .</u></p> <p><u>(b) Condemn such lands not exceeding 100 feet in width for its lines (including poles, towers, wires, supports and necessary equipment therefor) and in addition thereto, other lands necessary and convenient for the purpose of construction of service facilities. If the lands are covered by trees that are liable to fall and constitute a hazard to its wire or line, any public utility or transmission company organized for the purpose of building, maintaining and operating a line of poles and wires for the transmission of electricity for lighting or power purposes may condemn such trees for a</u></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><u>width not exceeding 300 feet, as may be necessary or convenient for such purpose.</u></p> <p><u>(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, any public utility, electrical cooperative association or transmission company may, when necessary or convenient for transmission lines (including poles, towers, wires, supports and necessary equipment therefor) designed for voltages in excess of 330,000 volts, condemn land not to exceed 300 feet in width. In addition, if the lands are covered by trees that are liable to fall and constitute a hazard to its wire or line, such public utility or transmission company may condemn such trees for a width not exceeding 100 feet on either side of the condemned land, as may be necessary or convenient for such purpose.</u></p> <p><del>ORS 772.210 establishes that for new transmission lines with voltage rated at 330 kV or above, an applicant has condemnation rights on lands not to exceed 300 feet in width [Emphasis added]. ORS 772.210 then establishes that, for lands not exceeding 100 feet on either side of the 100 foot corridor, condemnation is limited to trees.</del></p>
Page 211, Footnote 183	Typo	<p>OAR 660-006-0025(5)(a) also requires a finding that the proposed use would not force a significant change in accepted farm practices on adjacent lands used for agriculture, which is addressed under the ORS 215. <del>296275(5)</del> evaluation of this order.</p>
Page 212	Typo	<p>Relating to riparian restrictions, the applicant represents that, in some instances, it may not be possible to maintain timber in <del>steam</del> <u>stream</u> buffers along powerline corridors if trees do not meet minimum clearance requirements; coniferous trees could be trimmed, however “crown reduction” of deciduous trees is not recommended.</p>
Page 213	Clarification	<p>The project would convert 245.6 acres and 530.1 acres of forestland <u>in Umatilla County and Union County</u>, respectively,</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		which would result in losses of 0.0034 percent and 0.00059 percent of the forest lands, respectively.
Page 213	Typo	Recommended Land Use Condition 16: The certificate holder shall: a. Prior to construction, finalize and submit to the Department for its approval, a final Right-of-Way Clearing Assessment. The <del>protected</del> <u>protective</u> measures described in the draft Right-of-Way Clearing Assessment in Attachment K-2 of the Final Order on ASC shall be included and implemented as part of the final Right-of-Way Clearing Assessment, unless otherwise approved by the Department. b. During construction, the certificate holder shall conduct all work in compliance with the final Right-of-Way Clearing Assessment.
Page 215	Typo	During operations, the applicant proposes to minimize potential wildfire risk in forested lands from danger trees and overgrown vegetation by implementing a Vegetation Management Plan designed to comply with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Pruning Standards Best Management Practices for Utilities, Oregon Forest <del>Products</del> <u>Practices</u> Act, the U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the North American Electric Reliability Council's (NERC) Standard FAC-003-3 Transmission Vegetation Management Program (TVMP).
Page 216	Typo	Based on compliance with the Fire Prevention and Suppression Plan, the impact minimization measures included in the Right of Way Clearing Assessment, and Vegetation Management Plan, the Department recommends Council find that the proposed use would not significantly <del>ly</del> increase the wildfire hazards, fire suppression costs, or risk to fire suppression personnel within the surrounding area.
Page 222	Typo	As reflected in the Transportation and Traffic Plan, and as would be reflected in the applicable recommended Land Use

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		conditions, during the final design phase and before construction, the certificate holder proposes to and would be required to coordinate with the affected local public works and road departments regarding any transportation-related improvements.
Page 240	Clarification to align with operative Section 106 terminology and process	Recommended Protected Areas Condition 1: During design and construction of the facility, if the proposed facility route is selected, the certificate holder must: a. Coordinate construction activities in Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area with the Wildlife Area manager. b. Provide evidence to ODFW <del>that the certificate holder has received of a determination of eligibility and findings of effect pursuant to</del> Section 106 NRHP compliance for the proposed facility, <del>including and</del> the final HPMP for the portion of the facility that would cross Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area <u>subject to confidential material submission procedures</u> .
Page 241	Idaho Power suggests ODOE provide an explanation of the methodology behind the noise analysis provided in the application as it relates to protected areas.	<i>IV.F.2. Potential Noise Impacts</i>  <u>The applicant analyzes the potential noise impacts on protected areas by discussing the predicted noise levels resulting from construction and operation, and by discussing the predicted noise levels in the context of the ODEQ noise regulations at OAR Chapter 340, Division 35. While the ODEQ noise regulations are not decisive under the Protected Area Standard, the noise regulations analysis is relevant, along with other factors (e.g., frequency and duration), as discussed below.</u>
Page 241	Idaho Power suggests ODOE include an introductory statement at the beginning of the Construction section, summarizing its analysis and providing a citation to the relevant application materials.	<i>Construction</i>  <u>In general, construction of the proposed facility would cause some de minimis noise impact at certain protected areas that are close to the proposed facility, but construction would be short-term and temporary, as would the impacts. The</u>



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>applicant's noise impact assessment to protected areas is found in ASC Exhibit L, Section 3.5.3.</u>
Page 242	Typo	• Columbia <del>Basie</del> <u>Basin</u> Coyote Springs Wildlife Area
Page 243	Typo	The Longhorn Station would be approximately 0.7 miles from a protected area, the Columbia <del>Basie</del> <u>Basin</u> Coyote Springs Wildlife Area.
Pages 243-244	ODOE should clarify that the 27 dBA predicted noise level identified in the application and the DPO are related to the edge of the right-of-way and a noise sensitive receptor.  Idaho Power also suggests omitting the statement regarding wildlife and cultural resources, because they seem irrelevant in this context.	As described further in Section IV.Q.1, Noise Control Regulations, during certain foul weather conditions and low wind, corona noise would be greater than 27 dBA at <del>certain noise-sensitive receptors</del> <u>the edge of the right-of-way</u> . It is also possible that corona noise would be audible at certain locations in protected areas very near the proposed facility. However, corona noise is never anticipated to be above 50 dBA during foul weather at any noise sensitive receptor. <u>And</u> <del>At</del> <u>at</u> any nearby protected area, the conditions that give rise to a louder corona noise (namely, rainy weather) likely also <u>would</u> <del>limits</del> the users at a protected area. <u>The Other</u> <del>designations of protected areas could include protection of wildlife or cultural resources; however, the</del> low-level of corona noise, during infrequent weather conditions, is unlikely to cause a significant noise impact at these areas.
Page 244	Typo	Construction-related water use would include approximately 36.5 million gallons over an approximately 36-month period for transmission line structure foundation and Longhorn Station foundation; preparation of drilling slurry; moisture conditioning during access road construction; dust control <u>during</u> right-of-way clearing; station grading and site work; drilling and fire prevention; and re-seeding restoration upon construction completion.
Page 247	Typo	(3) Consideration of intensity, causation, and context (based upon Council's definition of "significant" OAR 345-001-0010(53).  ...

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		d. Potential significance. <del>significance</del> <u>Significance</u> was determined based on if the valued scenic attributes of the protected area could persist, or not, based on the proposed facility's potential impact.
Page 252, Footnote 202	Idaho Power suggests that ODOE include findings or conclusions related to the NHOTIC undergrounding study, and consider elevating the discussion from a footnote into the main body of the DPO.	The applicant's study makes two general conclusions: 1) the costs to underground the approximately 1.6 mile 500 kV segment in this area would be very high, approximately \$98.6 to 107.6 million more than building the segment traditional overhead configuration, and 2) the ground disturbance from underground installation would be "substantially greater" than for overhead, including large amounts of cut-and-fill because the area contains hillslopes, as well as "transition stations," which are required where the transmission line transitions from aboveground to belowground. <u>The Department has reviewed the applicant's analysis and concurs with the applicant's conclusions regarding the greater expense and increased ground disturbance impacts associated with undergrounding the transmission line in this area.</u>
Page 251-252		Considering that the agency that manages the NHOTIC land and has identified the NHOTIC <del>has as</del> having significant or important scenic value has authorized the proposed facility in the location proposed in the ASC, the Department considers this relevant information with regard to the EFSC Protected Areas standard
Page 253-254	Idaho Power requests that ODOE add, to the Protected Area Standard discussion regarding the Owyhee River Below the Dam ACEC, information related to the management plan amendment adopted by BLM in its B2H ROD.	<u>As described in the analysis for the Scenic Resources standard, the BLM has reclassified the area crossed by the proposed facility from VRM Class II to VRM Class IV. By issuing this route in its ROD, the federal agency (BLM) that administers the Management Plan for Owyhee River is authorizing the placement of the proposed facility in this location indicating that it is permissible within the scenic designations in the Management Plan. To the extent that the Council must consider the visual impacts to the resource, the</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<u>Council may rely on the decisions of the land-managers who administer their plans to inform its evaluation of the visual impacts. Considering that the agency that manages the Owyhee River Below the Dam ACEC and has identified the Owyhee River as having significant or important scenic value has also authorized the proposed facility in the location proposed in the EFSC application, the Department considers this relevant information.</u>
Page 255	Typo	The proposed facility in this area would include the rebuild of 1.1 miles of the existing <del>Quarts</del> <u>Quartz</u> to Weiser 138-kV transmission line to a new ROW, and the 500 kV proposed transmission line would be located in the existing 138-kV transmission line ROW, which is owned and operated by the applicant.
Page 256	Idaho Power requests that ODOE add, to the Protected Area Standard discussion regarding the Birch Creek ACEC, information related to the management plan amendment adopted by BLM in its B2H ROD.	The proposed facility would conform to VRM Class II objectives within the Birch Creek Parcel, and is therefore consistent with BLM's VRM direction to protect visual values within the Birch Creek Parcel. <sup>212</sup> <u>Finally, it is important to note that the BLM has approved the proposed facility route in this area and amended the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan to reclassify the area potentially impacted by the proposed facility from VRM Class III to VRM Class IV, and the Department considers this relevant information.</u>
Page 259	Typo	As is shown on Exhibit L, Attachment L-3, Figure L-3-16, the Power <del>Creek</del> <u>Creek</u> Parcel is located across I-84 from the proposed facility.
Page 273	In Recommended Retirement and Financial Assurance Condition 1, ODOE recommends that Idaho Power provide a bond or letter of credit in the amount of \$1.00 from the in-service date until in-service year 51. While Idaho Power does not disagree with the amount of the recommended assurance, Idaho Power requests that ODOE consider providing an additional option for the form of the assurance required. That is, Idaho Power requests that it be allowed to	Recommended Retirement and Financial Assurance Condition 5: . . . a. From the In-Service Date until In-Service Year 51, the amount of bond, <del>or</del> letter of credit, <u>or deposit</u> shall be \$1.00.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	provide a deposit for that same amount, because there are administrative costs associated with obtaining bonds and letters of credit which would far exceed the actual value of the bond and letter of credit at issue here.																																																																																																									
Page 279	Typo	• Pygmy rabbit (Brachylagus idahoensis) colonies}																																																																																																								
Pages 280-281	Typo, see Exhibit P1, page 16, Table 10, showing mitigation ratios. The mitigation rations for Category 3 habitat and Category 4 habitat should be the same: <1.	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Table FW-1: Estimated Temporary and Permanent Habitat Impacts and Proposed Mitigation</th></tr><tr><th rowspan="2">Habitat Category and Vegetation Type</th><th colspan="2">Proposed Route</th><th colspan="2">Mitigation</th></tr><tr><th>Temp</th><th>Perm</th><th>Temp</th><th>Perm</th></tr><tr><th></th><th colspan="2">Acres</th><th colspan="2">Acres</th></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Category 2</td></tr><tr><td>Agriculture/Developed</td><td>95.0</td><td>10.6</td><td rowspan="6">&gt;1 acre: 1 acre</td><td rowspan="6">&gt;1 acre: 1 acre</td></tr><tr><td>Bare Ground</td><td>2.0</td><td>0.3</td></tr><tr><td>Forest/Woodland</td><td>6.8</td><td>536.1</td></tr><tr><td>Open Water/Wetlands</td><td>1.0</td><td>0.5</td></tr><tr><td>Riparian Vegetation</td><td>0.6</td><td>0.4</td></tr><tr><td>Shrub/Grassland</td><td>1,990.9</td><td>334.2</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Category 3</td></tr><tr><td>Agriculture/Developed</td><td>10.1</td><td>0.8</td><td rowspan="6">&lt;1 acre: 1 acre</td><td rowspan="6">1 acre: 1 acre</td></tr><tr><td>Bare Ground</td><td>0.3</td><td>0.1</td></tr><tr><td>Forest/Woodland</td><td>16.0</td><td>458.0</td></tr><tr><td>Open Water/Wetlands</td><td>0.4</td><td>0.1</td></tr><tr><td>Riparian Vegetation</td><td>5.5</td><td>0.1</td></tr><tr><td>Shrub/Grassland</td><td>312.4</td><td>489.1</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Category 4</td></tr><tr><td>Shrub/Grassland</td><td>165.3</td><td>26.1</td><td>&lt;1 acre: 1 acre</td><td>1 acre: 1 acre</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Category 5</td></tr><tr><td>Shrub/Grassland</td><td>329.3</td><td>43.3</td><td>0</td><td>&lt;1 acre: 1 acre</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Category 6</td></tr><tr><td>Agriculture/Developed</td><td>310.5</td><td>259.8</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Source: ASC Exhibit P, Attachment P1-6 Table 1</td></tr></table>	Table FW-1: Estimated Temporary and Permanent Habitat Impacts and Proposed Mitigation					Habitat Category and Vegetation Type	Proposed Route		Mitigation		Temp	Perm	Temp	Perm		Acres		Acres		Category 2					Agriculture/Developed	95.0	10.6	>1 acre: 1 acre	>1 acre: 1 acre	Bare Ground	2.0	0.3	Forest/Woodland	6.8	536.1	Open Water/Wetlands	1.0	0.5	Riparian Vegetation	0.6	0.4	Shrub/Grassland	1,990.9	334.2	Category 3					Agriculture/Developed	10.1	0.8	<1 acre: 1 acre	1 acre: 1 acre	Bare Ground	0.3	0.1	Forest/Woodland	16.0	458.0	Open Water/Wetlands	0.4	0.1	Riparian Vegetation	5.5	0.1	Shrub/Grassland	312.4	489.1	Category 4					Shrub/Grassland	165.3	26.1	<1 acre: 1 acre	1 acre: 1 acre	Category 5					Shrub/Grassland	329.3	43.3	0	<1 acre: 1 acre	Category 6					Agriculture/Developed	310.5	259.8	0	0	Source: ASC Exhibit P, Attachment P1-6 Table 1				
Table FW-1: Estimated Temporary and Permanent Habitat Impacts and Proposed Mitigation																																																																																																										
Habitat Category and Vegetation Type	Proposed Route		Mitigation																																																																																																							
	Temp	Perm	Temp	Perm																																																																																																						
	Acres		Acres																																																																																																							
Category 2																																																																																																										
Agriculture/Developed	95.0	10.6	>1 acre: 1 acre	>1 acre: 1 acre																																																																																																						
Bare Ground	2.0	0.3																																																																																																								
Forest/Woodland	6.8	536.1																																																																																																								
Open Water/Wetlands	1.0	0.5																																																																																																								
Riparian Vegetation	0.6	0.4																																																																																																								
Shrub/Grassland	1,990.9	334.2																																																																																																								
Category 3																																																																																																										
Agriculture/Developed	10.1	0.8	<1 acre: 1 acre	1 acre: 1 acre																																																																																																						
Bare Ground	0.3	0.1																																																																																																								
Forest/Woodland	16.0	458.0																																																																																																								
Open Water/Wetlands	0.4	0.1																																																																																																								
Riparian Vegetation	5.5	0.1																																																																																																								
Shrub/Grassland	312.4	489.1																																																																																																								
Category 4																																																																																																										
Shrub/Grassland	165.3	26.1	<1 acre: 1 acre	1 acre: 1 acre																																																																																																						
Category 5																																																																																																										
Shrub/Grassland	329.3	43.3	0	<1 acre: 1 acre																																																																																																						
Category 6																																																																																																										
Agriculture/Developed	310.5	259.8	0	0																																																																																																						
Source: ASC Exhibit P, Attachment P1-6 Table 1																																																																																																										
Page 285	Typo, Condition 13, not 14, provides for surveys	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 4: The certificate holder shall:  ... Information To Be Included in Final Habitat Mitigation Plan:  ... v. The results of the biological surveys referenced in Fish and Wildlife Conditions 14 13, 15 and 16																																																																																																								
Page 286	Clarification	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 5:  ... b. Oregon’s Elk Mitigation Framework shall be used to calculate the amount of elk habitat compensatory mitigation required for the facility, and the information from the pre- and post-construction traffic studies as required by Fish and Wildlife Conditions 21 and 22 shall be used in the calculation.																																																																																																								

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 294	Certain of this information may be considered confidential (e.g., Category 1 sage-grouse lek locations), and therefore, the condition language should specify that submittal may require procedures designed to protect that confidentiality. Idaho Power proposes additional condition language referencing those procedures, language that ODOE has used in other proposed conditions.	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 7: Prior to and during construction, the certificate holder shall flag the following environmentally sensitive areas as restricted work zones: a. State protected plant species; b. Wetlands and waterways that are not authorized for construction impacts; c. Areas with active spatial and seasonal restrictions; and d. Category 1 habitat. The certificate holder shall submit a mapset showing the location of environmentally sensitive areas and restricted work zones to the department for its approval, <u>subject to confidential material submission procedures</u> . The certificate holder shall make the mapset available to all construction personnel.
Page 300	Typo, Condition 13, not 14, provides for surveys	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 12: During construction, if active pygmy rabbit colonies or the roost of a State Sensitive bat species is observed during the biological surveys set forth in Fish and Wildlife Conditions <del>14</del> <u>13</u> , 15 and 16, the certificate holder shall submit to the Department for its approval a notification addressing the following:
Page 308-309	Typo	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 16: Prior to construction, the certificate holder shall conduct, as applicable, the following biological surveys on all portions of the site boundary, regardless of whether those portions have been surveyed at the time of issuance of the site certificate, based on the survey protocols included in ASC Exhibit P Attachment P1-2 Revised Final Biological Survey Work Plan, unless otherwise approved by the Department in consultation with ODFW:  ... e. Greater sage-grouse, as necessary for the State of Oregon to calculate the amount of sage-grouse habitat compensatory

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		mitigation required for the facility <del>used</del> <u>using</u> Oregon's Sage-Grouse Habitat Quantification Tool.
Page 309	Clarification	In July 2015, the <del>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)</del> <u>Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (OFWC)</u> <del>adopted</del> <u>amended its</u> sage-grouse conservation rules at OAR 635, Division 140, to specifically address the impacts of development to the sage grouse. In March 2016, the Fish and Wildlife Commission <del>adopted</del> <u>amended</u> its <del>Sage-Grouse Conservation Policy</del> <u>Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Policy to reference the rules at OAR 635, Division 140 and provide specific guidance for developments in sage-grouse habitat</u> , which states, at OAR 635-415-0025(7): . . .
Page 316	Typo	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 17: At least 90 days prior to construction of a facility phase or component in sage-grouse habitat as mapped by <del>The</del> <u>the</u> Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) at that time, unless otherwise agreed to by the Department, the certificate holder shall finalize, and submit to the Department for its approval, in consultation with ODFW, a final Sage-Grouse Habitat Mitigation Plan. . . .
Page 317	Clarification	Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 19: During the third year of operation, the certificate holder shall provide to the Department and ODFW the <del>information necessary for data from the traffic studies in Recommended Fish and Wildlife Conditions 21 and 22 for</del> ODFW to calculate the final amount of indirect impact from facility roads to sage-grouse habitat and corresponding compensatory mitigation required using Oregon's Sage-Grouse Habitat Quantification Tool. . . .
Page 318	Typo	The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) implemented, concurrently with the <del>ODFW</del> <u>OFWC</u> , sage-grouse habitat conservation rules into the Oregon land use planning rules.
Page 326	Typo	As discussed above, the amount of sage-grouse habitat compensatory mitigation required for the proposed

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		transmission line <u>will</u> be determined by the Sage-Grouse Habitat Quantification Tool.
Page 328	Typo	As further described in Section IV.H, Fish and Wildlife Habitat, as well as in Exhibit Q, the applicant prepared a <del>Biologist</del> <u>Biological</u> Survey Work Plan to guide field surveys that would be used in support of the application.
Page 333	Typo	In <del>additional</del> <u>addition</u> to records of the species occurring in the analysis area, facility-specific field surveys identified three active WAGS colonies in Morrow County on or adjacent to the NWSTF Boardman.
Page 334	Typo	The removal work would be accomplished either <u>by</u> hand-crews on foot, or by using helicopters to remove the structures without ground disturbance, or by cutting off poles but leaving foundations in place.
Page 338	Typo	The applicant's assessment of surveys results and anticipated impacts is included <u>d</u> in Exhibit Q, Section 3.4.2.3.
Page 339	Typo	The applicant's impact analysis to each plant species with historic or field-verified occurrences in the analysis area is included <u>d</u> in a series of tables in Exhibit Q.
Page 339-340	Typo	This survey information would be used to microsite facility components, to the extent possible, to avoid direct impacts to resources <del>include</del> <u>including</u> threatened and endangered plants.
Page 340	Typo	Additionally, as would be required under the Reclamation and Revegetation Plan, site specific reclamation monitoring would be required after construction in order that areas of temporary disturbance area <u>be</u> restored.
Page 346	Typo	However, the Department notes that in order to be considered a "scenic resource" for purposes of evaluation under the EFSC Scenic Resources standard, a resource <u>s</u> must be "identified as significant or important in local land use plans, tribal land management plans, and federal land management plans.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 355	Typo	The language of the EFSC Scenic Resources standard relies upon scenic values identified in others' management plans, so the Council may rely on the decisions of the land-managers who administer their plans to inform its evaluation of the Scenic Resources standard. Considering that the agencies that manages many of these Scenic Resources have already authorized the proposed facility in the location proposed in the EFSC application, the Department considers this relevant information particularly to the EFSC Scenic Resources standard. The BLM and USFS have already issued records of decisions (RODs) authorizing the proposed facility.
Page 361	Typo	As described above, the VRM Class II designation means that in accordance with the applicant's proposed methods for establishing scenic resources that should be afforded review and protection under the EFSC Scenic Resources standard, <del>VMR</del> <u>VRM</u> Class II managed areas should be considered under the EFSC Scenic Resources standard.
Page 369	Typo	As described in Section IV.F., Protected Areas, the proposed facility in this area would include the rebuild of 1.1 miles of the existing <del>Quartz</del> <u>Quartz</u> to Weiser 138-kV transmission line to a new ROW, and the 500 kV proposed transmission line would be located in the existing 138-kV transmission line ROW, which is owned and operated by the applicant.
Page 370	Idaho Power requests that ODOE add, to the Scenic Resources Standard discussion regarding the Birch Creek ACEC, information related to the management plan amendment adopted by BLM in its B2H ROD.	Finally, it is important to note that the BLM has approved the proposed facility route in this area <u>and amended the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan to reclassify the area potentially impacted by the proposed facility from VRM Class III to VRM Class IV, and the Department considers this relevant information.</u>
Page 370	Typo, for consistency with other conditions, ODOE should consider describing the milepost numbers from least to greatest rather than greatest to least.	Recommended Scenic Resources Condition 3: During construction, to avoid significant adverse impacts to the scenic resources at the Birch Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet the following



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		criteria between <del>Milepost 199.1 and Milepost 197.9</del> <u>Milepost 197.9 and Milepost 199.1</u> : a. H-frames; and b. Tower Height no greater than 100 feet
Page 371	Typo	Scenic quality of the existing landscape <del>for is</del> considered low.
Page 372	Typo	The area crossed by the proposed facility was formerly designated as <del>VCM</del> <u>VRM</u> Class II, but the BLM amended its plan as part of its ROD for the B2H project, and the area is now designated VRM Class IV.
Page 374	Typo	The proposed facility in this area would be located in the USFS Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, and the USFS has approved the proposed facility in <del>this</del> <u>its</u> ROD.
Page 375	Typo	As with the Wallowa-Whitman VQO1 area, the proposed facility in the VQO2 area would be located in the USFS Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, and the USFS has approved the proposed facility in <del>this</del> <u>its</u> ROD.
Page 376	Typo	Also, in this area the proposed route is mostly located in the <del>USFW</del> <u>USFS</u> designated utility corridor, which was established for siting utility facilities such as transmission lines.
Page 398	Typo	In December 2018, the Department issued <del>a</del> requests for additional information (RAIs), requesting that the applicant re-visit the information provided in ASC Exhibit S, Table S-2 and re-evaluate whether or not there will indeed be any direct impacts to eligible resources, including Oregon Trail segments.
Pages 447-448	Idaho Power and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) have agreed to the certain processes set out in Idaho Power's proposed new subsection (2) to ensure Idaho Power will meaningfully engage with the CTUIR. Idaho Power requests that ODOE/EFSC include those processes as outlined here.  Also, clarification and typo	Recommended Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources Condition 2: Prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility, subject to confidential material submission procedures, and based on 1) new survey data from previously unsurveyed areas and 2) the final design of the proposed facility, the certificate holder shall submit to the Department, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and applicable Tribal Governments, for review and

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order

		<p>Department approval a final Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP).</p> <p>1. The final HPMP shall include, <u>unless otherwise approved by the Department</u>:</p> <p>a. The provisions outlined in the Attachment S-9 to the Final Order on the ASC, updated as applicable;</p> <p>b. A revised High Probability Areas Assessment and revised Inadvertent Discovery Plan;</p> <p>c. Updated information to reflect process updates described in the Final Order on the ASC with respect to EFSC historic, cultural, and archaeological resource information to align with the Section 106 federal review;</p> <p>d. Final eligibility determinations for newly identified resources and previously inventoried resources, with supporting documentation (final Cultural Resources Technical Report, ILS, RLS), from the lead federal agencies;</p> <p>i. Based on the final eligibility determinations, identify which resources qualify for protections under OAR 345-022-0090(1)(a) through (c);</p> <p>ii. Submit a revised table of resources inventoried including, at a minimum, the resource information included in ASC Exhibit S, Table S-2 or Table HCA-3 of the Final Order on the ASC;</p> <p>e. Identification of resources not protected under OAR 345-022-0090(1)(a) due to a final eligibility determination of “not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic <u>Properties Places</u> (NRHP),” yet may qualify for protections under OAR 345-022-0090(1)(b) or (c). The HPMP shall also include the following information for resources under OAR 345-022-0090(1)(b) for Department approval, in consultation with SHPO:</p> <p>i. Applicant recommendations and supporting documentation to demonstrate if the resource qualifies as an archaeological object or site under ORS 358.905(1)(a) and ORS 358.905(1)(c).</p>
--	--	--

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order

		<p>ii. A proposed site-specific impact assessment including avoidance, minimization and/or mitigation measures for the resource.</p> <p>f. Final site-specific impact (direct and indirect) avoidance measures and an impact assessment for a phase or segment of the facility, or specific facility component, including avoidance measures in Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources Condition 1;</p> <p>g. Final site-specific impact (direct and indirect) minimization measures based on final design of a phase or segment of the facility, or specific facility component;</p> <p>h. Final site-specific impact (direct and indirect) mitigation measures based on final design of a phase or segment of the facility, or specific facility component;</p> <p><u>2. Before the certificate holder submits the final HPMP to the Department, the certificate holder shall provide the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation (CTUIR) the following opportunities to review and comment on the HPMP:</u></p> <p><u>i. When the certificate holder begins to finalize the HPMP, the certificate holder shall notify the CTUIR that the certificate holder is beginning to finalize the HPMP and shall request that the CTUIR provide written comments within 60 calendar days from said notice. If requested by the CTUIR, the certificate holder shall reasonably attempt to meet in-person with the CTUIR prior to the 60-day deadline to discuss the HPMP; however, the timing of the in-person meeting will not affect the CTUIR's obligation to provide comments by the 60-day deadline.</u></p> <p><u>ii. The certificate holder shall provide to the CTUIR a copy of the revised HPMP along with written responses to any CTUIR comments received within the 60-day window set forth above in subsection (2)(i) of this condition. The certificate</u></p>
--	--	--

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><u>holder shall request that the CTUIR provide written comments on the revised HPMP within 60 calendar days. If requested by the CTUIR, the certificate holder shall reasonably attempt to meet in-person with the CTUIR prior to the 60-day deadline to discuss the revised HPMP; however, the timing of the in-person meeting will not affect the CTUIR's obligation to provide comments by the 60-day deadline.</u></p> <p><u>iii. When the certificate holder submits the final HPMP to the department, the certificate holder shall provide to the CTUIR written responses to any CTUIR comments received within the 60-day window set forth above in subsection (2)(ii) of this condition.</u></p> <p><u>2.3.</u> The certificate holder shall conduct all construction activities in compliance with the final Department-approved HPMP.</p>
Page 449	Based on Idaho Power's experience, the final Cultural Resources Technical Report will take longer than one year to complete. Idaho Power requests an additional two years.	<p>Recommended Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources Condition 3: Within <del>one year</del> <u>three years</u> after construction is completed , the certificate holder shall finalize, and submit to the Department for its approval, a final Cultural Resources Technical Report. . . .</p>
Page 453-454	Clarification	<p>The applicant analyzes the potential noise impacts on recreational opportunities by discussing predicted noise levels <del>resulting</del> from <del>the</del> construction and operation <del>of the proposed facility,</del> and by <u>analyzing discussing</u> the <del>potential predicted</del> noise <del>impacts levels under in the context of</del> the ODEQ noise regulations at OAR Chapter 340, Division 35. <del>Evidence of complying with the DEQ regulations is not necessarily definitive of compliance with the Recreation standard; however, it is relevant to that analysis While the ODEQ noise regulations are not decisive under the Recreation Standard, the noise regulations analysis is relevant,</del> along with other factors (e.g., frequency and duration), as discussed below.</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Pages 454-455	Typo	As described in the evaluation of the applicant's visual impact assessment for each of the four recreational opportunities crossed by proposed facility components, permanent visual impacts of the facility would not result in alteration of the recreational opportunity such that the resources would no longer be considered important.
Page 456	ODOE should clarify that the 27 dBA predicted noise level identified in the application and the DPO are related to the edge of the right-of-way and a noise sensitive receptor.  Idaho Power also suggests omitting the statement regarding wildlife and cultural resources, because they seem irrelevant in this context.	As described further in Section IV.Q.1., Noise Control Regulations, during certain foul weather conditions and low wind, corona noise would be greater than 27 dBA at <del>certain noise-sensitive receptors</del> <u>the edge of the right-of-way</u> . It is also possible that corona noise would be audible at certain locations in recreation opportunity sites very near the proposed facility or crossed by the proposed facility. However, corona noise is never anticipated to be above 50 dBA during foul weather at any noise sensitive receptor. <del>And</del> <u>At</u> <del>at</del> any nearby recreation opportunity, the conditions that give rise to a louder corona noise (namely, rainy weather) likely also <u>would</u> <del>limits</del> the users at a recreation area. <u>The low-level of corona noise, during infrequent weather conditions, is unlikely to cause a significant noise impact at these areas.</u>
Page 461	Typo	See Section IV.M.6., Public Services – Traffic Safety, and Recommended Public Services Condition 1 which requires the applicant to generate and submit for <del>approve</del> <u>approval</u> a county-specific Transportation and Traffic Plan, which would identify final construction routes and include traffic controls.
Page 462	Typo	The city asked that a condition of approval be included in the site certificate requiring that, if approved by Council and <del>chooses</del> <u>chosen</u> to be built by the applicant, that the Morgan Lake alternative use H-frame structures with natina finish (which mimics a wood-like look).
Page 462	Morgan Lake Park is considered in the EFSC process as an important recreation opportunity and evaluated for compliance with the Council's Recreation Standard, but is not	Recommended Recreation Condition 1: If the Morgan Lake alternative facility route is selected, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>separately evaluated as a Scenic Resource because the applicable management plan for Morgan Lake Park, the Morgan Lake Recreational Use and Development Plan, did not identify Morgan Lake Park as an important scenic resource. Accordingly, while Idaho Power did evaluate potential visual impacts associated with the project, it is important to also note that, per the Morgan Lake Recreational Use and Development Plan, there are no specific scenic views or values associated with the Morgan Lake Park that are regarded as particularly important for purposes of compliance with the Recreation Standard. Idaho Power's analysis of visual impacts focused on the elements of Morgan Lake Park that are most important for the recreation activities at the park, which include camping, picnicking, fishing, and boating.</p> <p>ODOE provides analysis regarding the potential impacts of the Morgan Lake Alternative on Morgan Lake Park and proposed Recommended Recreation Condition 1, which would require the use of H-frames to mitigate visual impacts. According to ODOE's analysis, the visual impacts to Morgan Lake Park include that the Morgan Lake Alternative "would be visible from portions of the park, primarily the access road and parking areas," and "vegetation located along the southern perimeter of the lake would screen views from campsites and locations on the water." ODOE expressed concern about whether vegetation screening would block all views of the Morgan Lake Alternative, particularly during the winter when deciduous vegetation falls from trees. ODOE also noted that "the City of La Grande objected to the proposed Morgan Lake alternative's impacts, particularly visual impacts, to the recreational opportunities at Morgan Lake Park" and requested that a condition of approval be included in the site certificate requiring that, if approved by</p>	<p>the following criteria for <u>the segment of</u> the transmission line that would be visible from Morgan Lake Park, specifically between <u>miles 5-7 Milepost ML 7/1 through Milepost ML 7/4</u> of the Morgan Lake alternative, as shown on ASC Exhibit C, Attachment C-3, Map 8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. H-frames;</li> <li>b. Tower height no greater than 130 feet; and</li> <li>c. Weathered steel (or an equivalent coating).</li> </ul>
--	---	--

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>Council and chosen to be built by the applicant, that the Morgan Lake alternative use H-frame structures with natina finish (which mimics a woodlike look). ODOE indicated that it agreed with the City of La Grande's assessment and request for mitigation.</p> <p>Idaho Power disagrees that the evidence in the record indicates there will be a significant adverse impact to the Morgan Lake Park that would require mitigation to be included as part of the site certificate. In Idaho Power's analysis of the potential impacts of the Morgan Lake Alternative on Morgan Lake Park in Exhibit T of the ASC, Idaho Power considered both traffic impacts and visual impacts and concluded that the project would not have a significant adverse impact on the resource. <i>See</i> ASC, Exhibit T at page T-44. Specifically, with respect to potential visual impacts, Idaho Power concluded towers would be visible in certain areas of the park, but also would be screened by vegetation which would block views of the towers from most locations in the park, so viewer perception could be intermittent and peripheral while viewers are moving through the park, but could also be continuous and/or head-on while engaging in activities such as camping, picnicking, and fishing. Idaho Power concluded that although the Project will introduce moderate contrast to the landscape, it will not preclude visitors from enjoying the day use and overnight facilities offered at Morgan Lake Park, and accordingly, the visual impacts to Morgan Lake Park would be less than significant for purposes of complying with the standard. Idaho Power's analysis demonstrates there is no adverse impact to the resource, and to the extent that the transmission line may be partially visible from some locations in the park, Idaho Power believes (1) those locations are not the primary recreation areas for the park (e.g., the entrance</p>	
--	---	--

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>road) and do not merit the same level of protection that would be afforded to other areas of the resource that are the focus of the recreation activities; and (2) the fact that the transmission line may be visible from some locations in the park does not presuppose the conclusion that there is a “significant adverse impact” for purposes of the Recreation Standard. Importantly, ODOE did not provide a conclusion that the project, without mitigation, would result in a significant adverse impact and did not present any analysis independent from Idaho Power’s analysis. Similarly, the request presented by the City of La Grande in its comments (dated April 27, 2018) is conclusory, conflating potential visibility of the transmission line with an adverse impact, and is not based on any independent analysis or record evidence. Accordingly, Idaho Power recommends that ODOE eliminate the Recommended Recreation Condition 1.</p> <p>While Idaho Power finds that ODOE’s Recommended Recreation Condition 1 is not supported by evidence in the record, Idaho Power nonetheless points out that the specific request by the City of La Grande was for “a condition of approval . . . that for the approximately 1.5 miles of the line that would be in view from Morgan Lake that H Frame towers be used to help mitigate the adverse impact to the view shed.” City of La Grande Comments, April 27, 2018 at page 2. Thus, it is clear the intent of the request was to require H-frames for the portion of the transmission line that would be visible from Morgan Lake, not from every part of the park. Moreover, the City of La Grande and Idaho Power have entered into an outside agreement for recreational improvements at Morgan Lake Park in lieu of H-frames to address any potential visual or traffic related impacts; and therefore, the impetus for ODOE’s condition (i.e., the City’s request) is now moot.</p>	
--	--	--



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>Idaho Power does not concede that intermittent visibility of the transmission line from Morgan Lake Park would result in an adverse impact or a requirement for mitigation. Even so, Idaho Power prepared the attached visual simulation to show that, if ODOE continues to recommend H-frames near Morgan Lake, ODOE should reduce the number of towers that would need to utilize H-frames from seven towers (the towers between MP 5 and MP 7 of the Morgan Lake Alternative) to four towers. See also the annotated version of Exhibit C, Map 8 showing the tower structure numbering, which we also attached. The simulation shows the transmission line from the main parking lot area at the lake where the boat dock and restroom facilities are located. Idaho Power chose this location because it represents a high-traffic area where most users of the park will interact with the park's recreation opportunities. For the simulation, Idaho Power modeled H-frames for towers ML 7/4, ML 7/3, ML 7/2, and ML 7/1 as recommended by ODOE, but for the remaining three towers (ML 6/3, 6/2, and ML 6/1), Idaho Power modeled lattice towers. As seen in the simulation, the lattice towers at ML 6/3, 6/2, and ML 6/1 are screened by coniferous vegetation and topography, and present no significant visual impact. Therefore, if ODOE recommends H-frames in this area, it is unnecessary to include ML 6/3, 6/2, and ML 6/1 in that recommendation.</p> <p>Finally, if ODOE rejects Idaho Power's request to eliminate ML 6/2 and ML 6/1 from the H-frame requirement, Idaho Power requests that ODOE amend the tower height limitation in the condition from 130 feet to 135 feet. Our preliminary engineering analysis of h-frames in this area indicates that ML 6/1 likely would need to be at least 135 feet tall to meet minimum ground clearance requirements. However, if ODOE</p>	<p>Note: If ODOE continues to recommend H-frames for ML 6/2, the tower height limitation above should be increased to 135 feet: b. Tower height no greater than <del>130</del> <u>135</u> feet;</p>
--	--	---

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	agrees with Idaho Power's request to eliminate ML 6/2, the minimum height of 130 is achievable.	
Page 462, Footnote 412	Idaho Power agrees with ODOE's findings in this footnote that the City of La Grande is not a recreation resource, scenic resource, or protected area, and that visual impact mitigation in the form of H-frame towers or other mitigated structure types in the viewshed of La Grande are not warranted under EFSC's standards. However, without waiving Idaho Power's positions on those points which Idaho Power expressly reserves, Idaho Power and Union County have entered into an outside agreement whereby Idaho Power has agreed to use, as a design feature choice, H-frame towers along the La Grande viewshed, specifically MP 106/2 through 108/5.	<p>Footnote 412: . . . The City of La Grande has also asked for the H-frame structure mitigation design feature to be used if the applicant selects the proposed facility route in areas that are visible from the City of La Grande. However, the Department points to the specific Council rule and standard that would require such mitigation for viewshed impacts to the City itself based on requirements stipulated in the rule or standard. The Council has three standards that consider visual impacts: Recreation, Scenic Resources, and Protected Areas. The City of La Grande is not a recreation resource, scenic resource, or protected area, and the Department does not find that visual impact mitigation in the form of H-frame towers or other mitigated structure types in the viewshed of La Grande are warranted. B2HAPPDoc ApASC Reviewing Agency Comment City of La Grande_Strope 2018-04-27. <u>However, the Department notes that Idaho Power and Union County have entered into an agreement outside of the EFSC process whereby Idaho Power would use H-frame towers along the La Grande viewshed as a design feature choice and the Department recommends that Council include the following condition recognizing that design feature decision:</u></p> <p><u>Recommended Condition: If the Proposed Route is selected, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet the following criteria for the transmission line that would be visible from the City of La Grande, specifically between Milepost 106/2 and Milepost 108/5:</u></p> <p><u>a. H-frames; and</u></p> <p><u>b. Weathered steel (or an equivalent coating).</u></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

Page 468	Typo	In this area, the facility would be located in the right of way of an existing 138 kV transmission line, and a rebuild of 1.1 miles of the existing <del>Quarts</del> <u>Quartz</u> to Weiser 138-kV transmission line.
Page 468	Typo	In addition, to further mitigate the visual impact, and as described above, the applicant proposes to use shorter stature <del>H-farm</del> <u>H-frames</u> structures to maximize the proportion of the transmission line screened from view by existing topography.
Page 469	Idaho Power requests that ODOE add, to the Recreation Standard discussion regarding the Birch Creek ACEC, information related to the management plan amendment adopted by BLM in its B2H ROD.	With the mitigation, very little of the proposed facility is anticipated to be visible from this location. <u>Additionally, it is important to note that the BLM has approved the proposed facility route in this area and amended the Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan to reclassify the area potentially impacted by the proposed facility from VRM Class III to VRM Class IV, and the Department considers this relevant information.</u>
Page 472	Idaho Power requests that ODOE add, to the Recreation Standard discussion regarding the Owyhee Below the Dam ACEC, information related to the management plan amendment adopted by BLM in its B2H ROD.	The ACEC/SRMA is owned and managed by the BLM, and the BLM has already approved the facility in this area via its ROD <u>and reclassified the area crossed by the proposed facility from VRM Class II to VRM Class IV. Considering that the agency that manages the Owyhee River Below the Dam ACEC and has identified the Owyhee River as having significant or important scenic value has also authorized the proposed facility in the location proposed in the EFSC application, the Department considers this relevant information.</u>
Page 473	Typos	Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway  The proposed facility would cross the Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway at approximately milepost 126, near the City of North Powder in Union County.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p>...</p> <p>Based on the analysis presented here, the Department recommends that the Council find that the proposed facility would not cause a significant adverse impact to the recreational opportunities at the Grande Tour Scenic Bikeway.</p>
Page 473, Footnote 427	Idaho Power requests that ODOE include in this footnote a statement recognizing that Idaho Power and Morrow County have entered into an outside agreement for improvements at one of the bikeway rest stops.	Footnote 427: Id. See Section 3.4.4.20 and Attachment T-3 Section 3.21 for the applicant's evaluation of the proposed facility's anticipated impacts to the resource. <u>The Department notes that Idaho Power and Morrow County have entered into an agreement outside of the EFSC process for certain improvements along the Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway.</u>
Page 482	Typo	Minimal amount of solid waste, such as household wastes listed above will be generated by the operation <del>personal</del> <u>personnel</u> at the Longhorn Station.
Page 496	Typos	The applicant explains that construction of the proposed facility is not expected to result in damage to existing roads, bridges, or overhead power distribution lines, however there will <u>be</u> the need to improve some local roads to accommodate oversize truck deliveries. In its letters on the ApASC and on the ASC, the City of La Grande, a reviewing agency for the proposed facility, expressed concerns about impacts to proposed access roads within its jurisdiction and requested that the applicant provide detailed information and coordinate with the City.
Page 499-500	Idaho Power contacted John Wilson at the Oregon Department of Aviation to determine the "vicinity" within which Idaho Power would need to provide notice to airmen. Mr. Wilson indicated there is no standard minimum distance for providing notice; instead, Mr. Wilson recommended that Idaho Power coordinate with ODA prior to construction to determine the airports at which notice would need to be provided.	<p>Recommended Public Services Condition 2:</p> <p>...</p> <p>i. At least 30 days prior to initiating helicopter operations, the certificate holder shall <u>provide consult with the Oregon Department Aviation regarding the preparation and posting of</u> notices to airmen regarding the location and nature of work being performed. The notice will be posted at each of the <u>public</u> airports in the vicinity of the facility to alert other</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		aviators of the location and timing of facility-related helicopter construction activities; an
Page 502	Typo	New roads will have access control based on travel management plan designations for the area, and the likelihood of access control being effective. Improved existing roads and some open new roads on BLM-managed and USFS lands are not anticipated to increase demands on law enforcement because they are not anticipated to result in a significant increase in public use.
Page 524	Typo	OPUC Order No. 18-176 (OPUC acknowledgement of the applicant's 2-017 IRP) acknowledges both the ongoing permitting, planning, and regulatory filings and to conduct preliminary construction activities, acquire long-lead materials, and to construct the proposed facility.
Page 524	Typo	Therefore, <del>the Department points the Council to the language of the standard and that because</del> <u>because the OPUC's order included acknowledgment of construction-related activities, the applicant has demonstrated the need for the facility under</u> OAR 345-023-0020(2); <del>has been met;</del> "The Council shall find that a least-cost plan meets the criteria of an energy resource plan described in section (1) if the Public Utility Commission of Oregon has acknowledged the least cost plan," <del>that and accordingly</del> the applicant has demonstrated the need for the facility under OAR 345-023-0005(1), and the Council must find that the Need Standard has been met.
Page 536	Idaho Power believes that the condition requiring grounding and bonding throughout the life of the project is unreasonable and beyond the letter of the rule. First, requiring Idaho Power to be responsible for grounding and bonding costs does not allow for Idaho Power and the landowners to negotiate a different mutually-acceptable resolution. During right of way negotiations, Idaho Power will educate landowners about induced currents and negotiate ways to address infrastructure on the property that's at risk	Recommended Siting Standards for Transmission Lines Condition 3:  ... b. The certificate holder shall develop and implement a program that provides reasonable assurance that <u>induced currents on</u> all fences, gates, cattle guards, trailers, or other objects or structures of a permanent nature <u>are as low as reasonably achievable that could become inadvertently charged with electricity are grounded or bonded throughout</u>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>for induced currents. However, the costs of addressing that infrastructure may be negotiated separately or may instead be incorporated into a unified landowner payment. In that sense, the requirement to pay the costs would interfere with the normal right-of-way negotiation process. Second, the requirement that Idaho Power ensure any infrastructure or equipment installed after construction also be grounded or bonded is unreasonable and unduly burdensome. As mentioned above, the standard practice is to address grounding and bonding of equipment up front, but after that, the landowner is educated on induced currents and if the landowner ignores those warnings and installs infrastructure or equipment too close to the transmission line, then it's the landowner's responsibility to address the issue, not Idaho Power's. The proposed condition would require Idaho Power to constantly inspect the landowner's equipment or infrastructure, something that is beyond industry practice and likely something the landowner does not want—that is, landowners generally want as few visits as possible, and ODOE's proposal would drastically increase the number of inspection visits. Finally, if ODOE is suggesting that Idaho Power would be responsible for equipment outside the right-of-way, that would require inspections beyond the company's legal rights. For these reasons, ODOE should re-word this proposed condition.</p>	<p><del>the life of the line. The certificate holder shall be responsible for any costs associated with grounding or bonding of permanent infrastructure such as are required for compliance with this condition.</del></p>
Pages 536-537	<p>Typo, language seems redundant or out of place</p>	<p>Recommended Siting Standards for Transmission Lines Condition 5: During operation, the certificate holder shall: ... b. File <del>the following required</del> information with the Commission <u>before January 2 of each even-numbered year, as required by ORS 758.013:</u> i. <del>758.013 Operator of electric power line to provide Public Utility Commission with safety information; availability of information to public utilities. (1) Each person who is</del></p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><del>subject to the Public Utility Commission's authority under ORS 757.035 and who engages in the operation of an electric power line as described in ORS 757.035 must provide the commission with the following information before January 2 of each even-numbered year:</del></p> <p><del>a. i.</del> The name and contact information of the person that is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the electric power line, and for ensuring that the electric power line is safe; and</p> <p><del>b. ii.</del> The name and contact information of the person who is responsible for responding to conditions that present an imminent threat to the safety of employees, customers and the public.</p> <p>c. In the event that the contact information described in <u>subsection (1) of this section above in Siting Standards for Transmission Lines Condition 5(b)</u> changes or that ownership of the electric power line changes, the person who engages in the operation of the electric power line must notify the commission of the change as soon as practicable, but no later than within 90 days.</p> <p>...</p>
Page 537	Subsection d. is a requirement or action the OPUC would undertake, not Idaho Power; and therefore, d. should be deleted.	<p>Recommended Siting Standards for Transmission Lines Condition 5: During operation, the certificate holder shall:</p> <p>...</p> <p><del>d. If the person described in subsection (1) of this section is not the public utility, as defined in ORS 757.005, in whose service territory the electric power line is located, the commission shall make the information provided to the commission under subsection (1) of this section available to the public utility in whose service territory the electric power line is located. [2013 c.235 §3]</del></p>
Page 552	Idaho Power disagrees with ODOE's recommendation that the noise rule exception and variance should apply only to the certain 36 NSRs identified as potentially experiencing	See comment.

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>exceedances. Instead, the exception and variance should be granted for the transmission line project as a whole. The ambient antidegradation standard regulates the noise originating from noise sources. ODEQ's definition of the term "industrial or commercial noise source" makes clear that the noise source to be regulated is that which <i>generates</i> industrial or commercial noise levels. See OAR 340-035-0015(23). Accordingly, the particular noise source is the subject of the regulation, not the properties affected by the noise. And, in turn, an exception or variance to that regulation should similarly apply to the noise source. Therefore, Idaho Power recommends that the exception and variance be granted for entire noise source, which is the entire transmission line. To the extent that the Council limits the scope of the exception and variance, the Council may consider granting the exception and variance to Idaho Power as the owner of the facility; or identifying the portions of the transmission line corresponding to the 36 NSR locations, authorizing the exception and variance for those portions of the transmission line, and concluding that the remainder of the transmission line complies with the ODEQ Noise Control Regulations.</p>	
Page 554	<p>ODOE's Recommended Noise Control Condition 2 provides a process for addressing potential noise complaints that may arrive after the site certificate or after construction. To the extent that ODOE recommends that the Council limit the scope of an exception or variance to the portions of the transmission line corresponding to the 36 NSR locations, Idaho Power requests the Council also make clear that any additional NSRs that may be identified after issuance of the site certificate are excepted under OAR 340-035-0035(6)(b), which provides an exception for "[i]ndustrial or commercial facilities previously established in areas of new development of noise sensitive property." While the transmission line will</p>	<p><i>Protection of Health, Safety, and Welfare of Oregon Citizens</i> ... <u>The Council's siting process includes an analysis of potential noise impacts to those noise sensitive properties in existence and identified at the time of the Council's decision. The Council's procedures for review of the ASC, issuance of the DPO, Proposed Order, and site certificate are public processes with many opportunities for public notice and comment. Through these processes, the potential locations of the transmission line—the noise source—is made known to the public. The site certificate provides that the certificate holder must construct the facility components within the site</u></p>



**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

	<p>be constructed in phases, and would not be fully constructed and operational immediately upon issuance of the site certificate, because landowners will be on notice regarding the location for the transmission line as defined in the site boundary at the time of the issuance of the site certificate, EFSC may consider issuance of the site certificate as the establishment of the transmission line for purposes of the exception under OAR 340-035-0035(6)(b). <i>See also</i> ORS 469.401(2). Similar to the approach in the Council's Final Order on Biglow Canyon Amendment #2, Idaho Power asks that the Council authorize an exception for any new development of noise-sensitive property, including residences.</p>	<p><u>boundary, which is a limited and defined area. The siting process involves notice to surrounding landowners of the potential presence of the new noise source. Any landowner who intends to develop a new noise sensitive use, such as a personal residence, should consider the actual or potential presence of facility components and any potential adverse health, safety, or welfare impacts from the noise they produce. Moreover, as provided in the Recommended Noise Control Condition 2, any such landowners developing a new noise sensitive property after issuance of the site certificate will still benefit from the process and protections afforded to all landowners for addressing noise complaints, including potential mitigation options for any verified exceedance.</u></p> <p>Feasibility and Cost of Noise Abatement</p> <p>...</p> <p><u>Idaho Power will be required to minimize operational noise associated with the transmission line to the extent feasible through the measures described in the Recommended Noise Control Condition 3. These measures include using a triple bundled configuration for 500 kV transmission lines, maintaining tension on all insulator assemblies to ensure positive contact between insulators, and protecting the conductor surface to minimize scratching or nicking. Consistent with the findings in the DPO at 556, however, additional noise abatement measures such as insulators, silencers, and shields, are not reasonable technologies for transmission lines due to length, safety, and operational considerations.</u></p> <p><i>Past, Present, and Future Patterns of Land Use and Relative Timing of Land Use Changes</i></p> <p>...</p>
--	--	---

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p><u>A large percent of the land in the immediate vicinity of the project is currently zoned as Goal 3 (agricultural land) or Goal 4 (forestland). Idaho Power is unaware of any future land use zoning changes for the land in the project area.</u></p> <p><i>Legal Constraints</i></p> <p>...</p> <p><u>While Idaho Power will seek to obtain easements for the transmission line right of way from landowners, Idaho Power cannot forbid the construction of new noise sensitive uses outside the boundaries of the right-of-way or by other landowners with whom Idaho Power does not have a contractual relationship. Accordingly, Idaho Power cannot legally prevent landowners from developing a new noise sensitive property in many situations. Additionally, once issued, the site certificate will govern the location of the transmission line within the site boundary, or micrositing corridor, so Idaho Power would not be able to relocate the transmission line to avoid any new noise sensitive properties.</u></p>
Page 554-555	ODOE should clarify that Idaho Power would be required to submit weather information, as it relates to a noise complaint, only to the extent that the complainant supplies that information to Idaho Power. ODOE should not put the onus on Idaho Power to research and identify weather information, where the complainant is in the best position to do so.	<p>Recommended Noise Control Condition 2:</p> <p>...</p> <p>b. The certificate holder shall notify the Department within three working days of receiving a noise complaint related to the facility. The notification shall include the date the certificate holder received the complaint, the nature of the complaint, weather conditions of the date for which the complaint is based (including wind speed, temperature, relative humidity, and precipitation) <u>as described by the complainant</u>, duration of perceived noise issue, the complainant's contact information, the location of the affected property, and a schedule of any actions taken or planned to be taken by the certificate holder (including inspection and maintenance actions, or actions taken or</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		planned to be taken pursuant to the processes described in subsections c and d of this condition). ...
Page 555	Idaho Power suggests that ODOE clarify that it shall be the deciding authority in the event of a dispute over sound monitoring data.	Recommended Noise Control Condition 2: ... <u>c. iv. In the event of a dispute regarding complainant's noise data and the certificate holder's data from site specific sound monitoring, the Department shall make the final determination regarding which data will be used to determine whether corona noise exceeds the ambient antidegradation standard.</u>
Page 555	Idaho Power suggests, if an agreement cannot be reached between the exceedance NSR owner and Idaho Power, that Idaho Power submit, among other items, any measures Idaho Power proposes to address the exceedance.	Recommended Noise Control Condition 2: ... d. i. The certificate holder will work with the NSR property owner to develop a mutually agreed upon mitigation plan to include agreed upon measures that would be implemented at the NSR location to minimize or mitigate the ambient antidegradation standard noise exceedance. If the certificate holder executes an agreement with the NSR property owner, the certificate holder will submit a signed acknowledgement from the property owner to the Department for its records. If the certificate holder cannot reach an agreement with the NSR property owner, the certificate holder will submit to the Department <u>(1) the certificate holder's proposed measures, if any, to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the ambient antidegradation standard noise exceedances at the relevant NSRs; (2) a list of the dates that the certificate holder communicated with, or attempted to communicate with, the NSR property owners; and (3) the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the NSR owners.</u>
Page 557	Clarify to be more consistent with relevant rule findings	The Department recommends that the Council <del>consider</del> <u>conclude</u> that because the proposed facility is not located within residential use zoned land and there is no indication that any of these land use areas will be changed to residential

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		zoning in the future, that <del>this factor not be considered relevant to the request for exception</del> <u>there is a diminished likelihood of impacting additional NSRs in the future.</u>
Page 565	Clarify to be more consistent with relevant rule findings	Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions of law, and subject to compliance with the recommended site certificate conditions, the Department recommends that the Council find that an exception <u>and</u> <del>or</del> variance be granted for the proposed facility at 36 NSR locations and that the proposed facility, including the proposed and alternative routes, would otherwise comply with the Noise Control Regulations in OAR 340-035-0035(1)(b)(B).
Page 570	Typo	Recommended Removal-Fill Condition 1: The certificate holder shall: b. Prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility, the Department must receive a Letter of Concurrence issued by the Oregon Department of State Lands referencing the applicable wetland delineation for the phase or segment of the facility <del>comply with removal fill permit requirements in Removal-Fill Condition 6.</del>
Page 573	Typo	Recommended Removal-Fill Condition 3: a. Prior to construction of a phase or segment of the facility, <u>the certificate holder shall</u> submit an updated final Compensatory Wetland and Non-Wetland Mitigation Plan (CWNWMP), consistent with the draft CWNWMP (Attachment J-1 to the Final Order on the ASC), for review and approval by the Department, in consultation with Department of State Lands (DSL).
Page 577	Consider whether this paragraph addresses subsection (d), rather than (c), and therefore should be re-organized under (d)	Furthermore, the applicant describes in detail in ASC Exhibit B (and its attachments) the routing and siting process it conducted and results of the federal permitting process which contributed to the proposed and alternative routes the applicant includes in the ASC. This is summarized in Section III.A., Transmission Corridor Selection of this order, which describes the siting studies and process the applicant

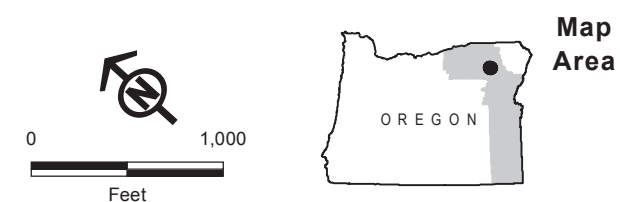
**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		<p>employed to establish the transmission corridors (proposed and alternative routes) for the proposed facility. This effort was conducted for the federal NEPA review process and for the ASC and included planning for avoidance and minimization of impacts to numerous resources including but not limited to waters of the state, visual resources, and NHPA Section 106 resources. Other siting constraints included ODFW Category 1 habitat, Greater sage grouse habitat, agricultural and farming lands, protected areas, mountainous areas with steep slopes, and highly populated residential areas. These siting constraints are also discussed in Section IV.Q.1., Noise Control Regulations, which also provides the siting constraints and considerations around noise sensitive properties, such as residences, within the analysis area. The proposed and alternative transmission line routes included in the ASC were selected to avoid or reduce impacts to these resources. Based upon a review of the assessments in the applicable sections of this order and on the information the applicant provided in ASC Exhibits, the Department recommends Council conclude the availability of alternatives to the project for which the fill or removal is proposed was considered.</p>
Page 577	Typo	<p>The availability of alternative sites for the permanent removal or fill activities relates to the section directly above that provides a description of the siting process the applicant used to establish the proposed and alternative routes, which employed the siting opportunities and siting <del>constrictions</del> <u>constraints</u> that informed or directed the routes.</p>
Pages 579-580	Typo	<p>As outlined in that section and relying upon information provided in the ASC, the Department provides a discussion of the applicant's experience and expertise permitting, constructing, operating, and maintaining <del>facilitates</del> <u>facilities</u> similar to the proposed facility, as well as the applicant's</p>

**Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Idaho Power's Comments on the Draft Proposed Order**

		experience in compliance with state and federal safety and reliability standards for similar facilities.
Page 581	Typo	Section IV.E.2., Directly Applicable State Statutes and Administrative Rules and in Section IV.E.1., Local Applicable Substantive Criteria, for each affected county there is a discussion of ORS 215.283, ORS 215.275 and ORS 215. <del>296</del> <u>275(5)</u> , as they apply to the facility according to the zoning designation crossed.
General Comment	While Idaho Power does not propose that this be included in the Proposed Order, Idaho Power would like to acknowledge on the record that Idaho Power and Windy River, LLC have entered into an outside agreement which provides for certain conditions related to the location of the project on, and Idaho Power's use of, the Windy River property.	No edit proposed.





Source(s): BLM, IPC, ODFW, ODOT, NPS, USDA, USFS, USGS, Ventyx, Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEys, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo

Z:\UtilServ\Boardman\_Hemingway\Reports\002\_Oregon\_Energy\_Siting\_Council\03\_Final ASC\Exhibits\IC\_Project Location\Maps\Attachment C-3\Morgan Lake\_UNION\_rev 20180612.mxd

- Project Features**
- Site Boundary
  - Transmission Centerline
  - Mileposts
    - Mile
    - Tenth-mile
  - Work Areas
    - Communication Station
    - Pulling and Tensioning
    - Structure Work Area
  - Access
    - New Road, Bladed
    - New Road, Primitive
- Important Siting Constraints and Other Features**
- 100-foot Contours
  - Pipeline
  - Other Road
  - Stream
- Land Status**
- Private

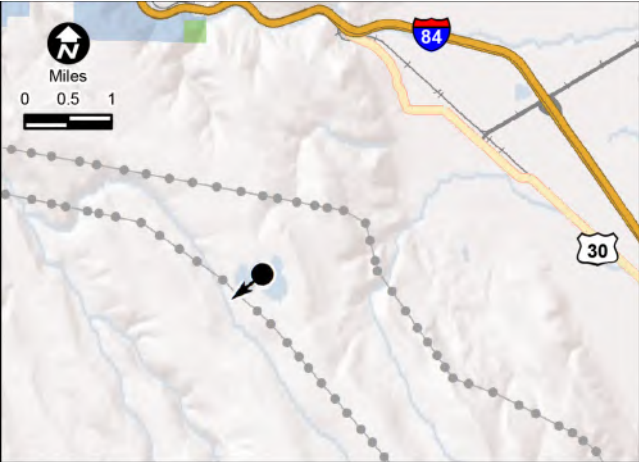
Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project  
Application for Site Certificate



**Attachment C-3  
Alternative Location Maps**

Morgan Lake Alternative  
Union County





Viewpoint Location Map

Source: ESRI

**Legend**

	Land Status
Key Observation Point	Bureau of Land Management
Towers	National Park Service
Transmission Line	State
Railroad	State Wildlife, Parks and Recreation, or Other
Interstates	USFS
Highways	Other Federal Land
State Routes	

**Photograph Information**

Time of photograph:	12:58 PM
Date of photograph:	10-26-17
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	South
Latitude:	45°18'7.15"N
Longitude:	118° 8'19.95"W
Nearest Tower Distance:	0.37 Mile

Photograph is intended to be viewed 12 inches from viewer's eyes when printed on 11x17 paper. The photograph below has been cropped top and bottom to show a wide angle of view with the above photograph's area shown in yellow.



Morgan Lake Alternative  
Morgan Lake Park  
H-Frame and Lattice Structures

Boardman to Hemingway  
Transmission Project

August 2019

Figure XX





# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Mark  
Stokes

Name (mandatory) IDAHO POWER CO.

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1221 W. IDAHO ST., BOISE, ID 83702

Phone Number (optional) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: 6/18/2019

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_ IF NEEDED AT END

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 SECRETARY CORNETT: So we have one more 2 comment card, it's from Idaho Power Company. My 3 understanding is only if the Council members have 4 questions for them; is that correct? So if Council 5 members have any questions based on the testimony that 6 they've heard from others, if they'd like to follow up 7 with any questions with Idaho Power Company, they are 8 available to answer your questions. 9 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: So I'd like Idaho 10 Power to talk about the tower placement between milepost 11 255 and 258, if they could, please. 12 SECRETARY CORNETT: So we can also take a 13 short break if Council and presiding officer is 14 interested to give Idaho Power a little bit of time to 15 think about responding or you could respond now if you'd 16 like. 17 MR. MARK STOKES: If we could have a few 18 minutes to at least look at the map. 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Is Council good with 20 taking a ten-minute break and reconvening? 21 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Sure. 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: It's 6:05 now. 23 Let's reconvene at 6:15 to hear from Idaho Power. 24 (Recess taken.) 25 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: We will go back on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 We have a continuous nest of bald eagle that is in the 2 same vicinity, within a quarter of a mile. 3 And I think that there was a proposed area for 4 the transmission line which was a little ways south of 5 where we are. A couple of miles on up the canyon 6 there's already a transmission line crossing. Why can't 7 they put the proposed transmission line adjacent to that 8 one? It's already designated for that type of system. 9 That's all I have. Thank you. 10 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 11 Mr. Stokes; correct? 12 MR. MARK STOKES: Yes. 13 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: If you would state 14 your name and your I guess work address and we'll go 15 from there. 16 MR. MARK STOKES: Mark Stokes. I'm an 17 engineering project leader for Idaho Power, address 1221 18 West Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. 19 And I guess to start off, I'd like to welcome 20 all of the Council members here. I appreciate you 21 traveling over here this week and next week as well. 22 We'll all be seeing a lot of each other both weeks. 23 To address the specific question that was 24 brought up, Councilman Jenkins, would you want to 25 restate your question.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 the record here. 2 Just a couple of housekeeping things. First 3 of all, we have another member of the public who I 4 strong-armed into giving comment. So Mr. Bowman, if you 5 would like to come up, and then we will hear from 6 Mr. Stokes with Idaho Power. And when we're done with 7 that, just to give everybody, some late stragglers if 8 they have come in, the opportunity, we, the people from 9 the Department and me and probably the people from Idaho 10 Power, will be here until 8:00. So if there's somebody 11 that does come in late that still wants to give comment. 12 But after we hear from these two gentlemen here, we will 13 go I think probably back on break and then we will 14 reconvene again if somebody else comes in and wants to 15 give a comment. 16 So, Mr. Bowman, if you would state your name 17 and your address. 18 MR. JERRY BOWMAN: My name is Jerry Bowman. I 19 live at 2197 Rock Springs Canyon Road. I'm adjacent 20 property owner to Jim Foss. 21 That power line is going to be coming within 22 feet of my property. I'm concerned about the noise 23 level, I'm concerned about the electromotive force. We 24 have several nests of red-tailed hawks within a quarter 25 of a mile of where the transmission line is going to be.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Sure. 2 So my question goes back to Jay Chamberlin's 3 comment about the tower placement between milepost 255 4 and 258. There was concern -- I'll just leave it at 5 that. 6 MR. MARK STOKES: Okay. After looking at our 7 map set through that area, a lot of the folks that have 8 commented this evening are in that same area, and I was 9 able to confirm that our original land was to route 10 south of that area. The reason that route is not in the 11 project right now is because BLM had determined due to 12 the scenic and natural area south of these parcels and 13 the proximity to the Owyhee River and the siphon and 14 that whole area, BLM was not willing to leave the route 15 south of these parcels. So that's really, the route got 16 changed in the whole NEPA process and was moved to where 17 it is now. That was part of the agency-preferred route 18 for BLM. So in a nutshell that's my response to that 19 question. 20 I've got a copy of this map if any of you 21 would like to look at more specific details there. But 22 that is the background of that area. 23 Now, a little more specifically, I wanted to 24 comment, Mr. Proesch contacted our office just yesterday 25 morning, that was the first time we had had any</p>



# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) IDAHO POWER CO. - MARK STOKES

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1221 W. IDAHO ST, BOISE, ID 83702

Phone Number (optional) ( ) Email Address (optional)

Today's Date: 6/19/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No IF NEEDED

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p> <p>1 that people have talked about, the federal corridor, the 2 central Oregon road, go to the federal corridor. Why 3 don't you go that way, that's what Baker County has been 4 saying from the beginning. Idaho Power, No, that's a 5 hundred miles out of the way. That will cost too much. 6 Burying the line. Oh, can't bury the line, it 7 might cost as much as Chino Hills that went under an 8 interstate and shopping mall and a whole -- I mean, 9 okay, that's what they wanted to use. 10 Substations, dropping off some pops along the 11 way, some substations, the cost of that. All these 12 costs, why are they saying it's too expensive or we 13 can't do it? I'll tell you why. Because that changes 14 the cost of the B2H portfolio. 15 In the 2019 round, there were 24 portfolios to 16 beat Idaho Power's need. We won't even get into all 17 that stuff yet, we'll maybe talk about that tomorrow in 18 La Grande. But to meet their need now, this go-round in 19 2019, we listened to and they created in their computer 20 modeling 24 portfolios; 12 with B2H, 12 without B2H. 21 B2H portfolio is the cheapest portfolio. 22 If you added one of those things, the federal 23 corridor, the burying the line or some substations, B2H 24 is no longer the least-cost portfolio in Idaho Power's 25 toolbox.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p> <p>1 Mark, one of the issues that has been raised 2 is invasive weed spread and whether or not Idaho Power 3 is going to be submitting an invasive weed management 4 plan. I believe that was referred to in the 5 application. Can you talk a little bit about that. 6 MR. MARK STOKES: Yes, certainly, Vice 7 Chairman. 8 There's a lot of plans like the noxious weed 9 plan that were, we call them frameworks at this point, 10 that were developed as a part of the NEPA process, 11 working through that with BLM. And the intent all along 12 has been that when we get to the point where we have 13 more certainty on the route and other things associated 14 with the line, that we would then go back and flesh out 15 those plans, put all the details in. And it would be at 16 that point that we would expect to work through each of 17 the counties to make sure that the specific plans met 18 their needs. 19 So it's certainly in our plan to go out and do 20 that. And that will all happen here roughly a year and 21 a half, 2 years when we develop what's called the 22 construction POD, or plan of development, which is a 23 pretty sizable document that will include all of those 24 other plans. There will be things in there that address 25 section 106, cultural issues, fire prevention and</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p> <p>1 So we're not going to go away. We'll take 2 this to the PUCs in both states. We keep on, we keep 3 going. You'll hear more tomorrow, and all of our stuff 4 will be in writing of course by the deadline. 5 Thank you. 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 7 Is there a last call for anybody to give 8 comment before we have Mr. Stokes up? Is there anybody 9 on the phone that's listening in that would like to give 10 comment? Okay. Hearing none, we'll hear from 11 Mr. Stokes. 12 MR. MARK STOKES: Good evening. My name is 13 Mark Stokes. Address is 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, 14 Idaho 83702. I'm an engineering project leader for 15 Idaho Power, and the project leader for the Boardman to 16 Hemingway project. 17 Here tonight, I was not going to make any 18 specific comments on everything that's been said this 19 evening but I did want to avail myself to answer any 20 questions that Council members may have. 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Any questions, 22 Council, for Mr. Stokes? 23 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: No. 24 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: I do have a question 25 for Mark.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p> <p>1 protection plans. There's a lot of them. We can go 2 back and look at the list if we need to. But we 3 certainly do plan on addressing those. 4 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Thank you. 5 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Any other questions? 6 Thank you. 7 What is going to happen on our end now is we, 8 those of us, the Council members and the DOE people and 9 me, we will be here until 8:00 or close to 8:00 in case 10 there's anybody that comes in that wants to provide 11 public testimony. But for now, it's 6:38 and we'll 12 recess and we will reconvene if somebody does join us 13 and want to give testimony. 14 So thank you everybody. 15 (Hearing recessed at 6:38 p.m.) 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>





# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) IDAHO POWER CO. - MARK STOKES

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1221 W. IDAHO ST., BOISE, ID 83702

Phone Number (optional) ( ) Email Address (optional)

Today's Date: 6/20/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No AT END/IF NEEDED

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 146</p> <p>1 day. I have seen things like, I saw a newborn elk 2 nursing off its mom on the hillside outside of my house. 3 I could live my whole life someplace in a city and not 4 have those experiences. 5 So I really want to see this power line not 6 come through here because, one, I think it will partly 7 ruin things most certainly. I care more about kids than 8 anything, and it will certainly make our major outdoor 9 park that's wild inaccessible to them during the summer 10 when they are able to go there. And I don't know how 11 many summers that road to Morgan Lake will be really 12 difficult to use. It is a difficult road. If you 13 haven't experienced it, you should. 14 One of the teachers I taught with one time was 15 coming down in the summer, and his wheel caught, it gets 16 really muddy even this far from the edge. And his wheel 17 caught in that mud and got stuck and he rolled down into 18 that valley down there. And he moved his house, he 19 moved his family, he had kids, and he decided that road 20 was too dangerous for his family to be up there in the 21 wintertime. So it's not a good road, and I'm concerned 22 about the damage that will be done to it. 23 The other thing is that I am one of those that 24 believes that the technology is such that there are 25 other ways to meet this demand that is proposed,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 148</p> <p>1 program where it was federally instituted, brought us 2 great wealth. And I believe that we can keep some of 3 that wealth. But we can't keep going to provide 4 electricity in the ways that we have, because -- I mean, 5 the water is renewable from the dams. But the coal 6 production and so forth, no, we have got to have other 7 ways, or my grandchildren and your grandchildren, they 8 are not going to have the kind of world we have. 9 And you people are government employees, and 10 because people have so many different ideas about who 11 should cut what and this is what I can do so that you 12 can do -- oh, you're traveling around the world. Well, 13 that's a lot of carbon footprints. So we all have these 14 different things. 15 So it's time for government, for you guys to 16 stand up and say, Is this really a good idea? Not just 17 for this community, but is it really necessary to do 18 this kind of power, to cause this kind of fire danger? 19 I know I'm kind of rambling here, and I didn't 20 have much time to prepare anything. But I was down in 21 Santa Rosa after the fire, I think it was 2015, I was 22 down there in January, and I saw -- my friend lived very 23 close to the devastated area in the town of Santa Rosa. 24 And I camped in Napa Valley and came over through Rincon 25 Valley, which was burned up.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 147</p> <p>1 perceived in Idaho. And I do believe that Idaho Power 2 is doing the best job that they can do, as being 3 financially responsible for their ratepayers and their 4 shareholders. They are looking for the cheapest way to 5 do this. 6 But there is all kinds of wealth, and one of 7 the kinds of wealth we have is a world that is viable. 8 A world that's not too hot and not too cold. And the 9 alternative energy, things we have, like solar and 10 water, are so perfect for the area that they want to 11 serve, but it does cost more. So in order for it to not 12 cost more, they are going this route. 13 But I would like all of us to look a little 14 larger. I have all the kids I taught who are now having 15 children of their own. The kids I first taught, when I 16 first came here, some of them are grandparents now. I 17 came here because I care about connections. I care 18 about people and I care about animals and I care about 19 connections, and I want the human race to go on for a 20 while. 21 And I think that doing everything we can to 22 make that happen is incumbent upon all of us, even 23 though we have different ideas of what that might be. 24 I am hoping that as a government agency -- you 25 know, world edification under Franklin Roosevelt's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 149</p> <p>1 I used to think when I looked on the news and 2 I saw that one house there and everything else that was 3 burned around it, and I looked at that one house and 4 thought, boy, were those people lucky. But when I got 5 to Sonoma County, and I saw that, and I saw the one 6 house remaining, and there is just charred foundations 7 everywhere, and chimneys, that's all that was there, and 8 I saw that one house that was standing, and I realized 9 they are not lucky. Everybody they were connected to is 10 gone. Most of their neighbors have a sign up to try to 11 sell their property. But who wants to buy it? 12 So we have to take care of the future. We 13 have to mitigate fire danger. And this place here is 14 too dry to take on any more risk. Please help us out 15 here. 16 Thank you. 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 18 Mr. Stokes. 19 MR. MARK STOKES: Good evening, everybody. 20 It's getting late. Chair Beyeler, Vice Chair Jenkins, 21 City Council member, staff, good evening. My name is 22 Mark Stokes. I'm an engineering project leader for 23 Idaho Power Company. My address is 1221 West Idaho 24 Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. 25 MR. DAVE STANISH: I'm Dave Stanish, also with</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 150</p> <p>1 Idaho Power, same address. So hopefully together we can 2 help answer your questions. 3 MR. MARK STOKES: After listening to all of 4 the comments tonight, we thought there were just a 5 couple of things that we wanted to get corrected on the 6 record. 7 First off, some previous testimony that was 8 presented tonight a statement was made that BPA is not a 9 partner in the project any longer. That is not true. 10 They are still a fully committed partner. In fact, I 11 was in communication with my counterparts at BPA earlier 12 this week before I left town. So I just want to get 13 that on the record. 14 One other item here, a few speakers ago made 15 the statement that Idaho Power does not have any 16 customers in Oregon. And that is not true as well. We 17 serve approximately 15 percent of our total system load 18 is for Oregon customers that are located in Malheur and 19 Baker Counties. So we do have a fairly substantial 20 number of customers in Oregon. 21 So with that, as we have done previous nights, 22 David and I would like to make ourselves available to 23 try and field any questions that Council members may 24 have. 25 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: So Mark and David, I'm</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 152</p> <p>1 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Last call for 2 anybody to give any statements? 3 MR. RANDY SILTANEN: Thank you for letting me 4 speak. My name is Randy Siltanen. My address is 1901 5 Foley Street. 6 So I guess my major question to Idaho Power 7 is: For what just cause? So why are we doing this? If 8 there were no other options it would be understandable, 9 but there are plenty of other options. And we have 10 heard tonight dozens of reasons why this is a bad idea, 11 and we haven't heard any reason why this is a good idea. 12 And what it comes down to, to me, I think, is 13 money. And they think that it will be cheaper in the 14 long run to do this rather than use other new 15 technologies. 16 And Mr. Cimon spoke very eloquently about 17 this, that it's yesterday's news. We have got new 18 options. We have solar and we have wind. And there is 19 a very smart engineer by the name of Mark Jacobson at 20 Stanford who has outlined a really good road map for 21 renewable energy by the year 2030. And it doesn't 22 really make any sense to do this if money is the only 23 reason. 24 I think that's what it is, and I think they 25 are wrong on that. At this point they think it's</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 151</p> <p>1 going to ask a really hard question tonight: Why wasn't 2 the BLM route proposed as a part of your application to 3 EFSC? 4 MR. MARK STOKES: Back when BLM was working on 5 getting their ROD issue, the delays in their process 6 happened, occurred. We had to move ahead with the state 7 process late in the application. And by the time BLM 8 came out with their ROD, their record of decision, it 9 was too late for us to really go back at that point. 10 Now, when I had conversations with BLM's 11 program manager about this and whether that created any 12 issues for BLM, they recognized that the Glass Hill 13 route that you're talking about and the Morgan Lake 14 route were identical on parcels that were under control 15 of BLM, federal government. 16 So the fact that in our state application we 17 had the Morgan Lake route did not influence or impact 18 BLM's record of decision in their process. 19 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Thank you. 20 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Any further 21 questions? 22 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Not from me tonight. 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you, 24 gentlemen. 25 MR. MARK STOKES: Thank you very much.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 153</p> <p>1 cheaper, but as Mr. Cimon outlined, it's not. In the 2 long run, it's not cheaper. And there is no just cause 3 to do this. It's not like there is -- it's not like we 4 are trying to provide water to an impoverished area. 5 It's not like bringing electricity to a third-world 6 country who needs it to run their hospital. 7 There is plenty of electricity, there is 8 plenty of ways to get it, and it's not absolutely 9 essential that it goes that way. And yet you are asking 10 people to give up their viewshed. You are putting 11 people's lives at risk for something that is not 12 necessary, other than that it's cheaper, and it seems 13 cheaper, and in the long run it's not cheaper. And that 14 is all I have to say. 15 Thank you. 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 17 We have run an hour past our allotted time. 18 So anybody -- do you want 2 more minutes, Ms. Barry? 19 MS. LOIS BARRY: This will be very short. But 20 since you have all been so patient and listened for so 21 long and you have heard a lot of important information, 22 one is, from my research, that every single planned 23 transmission line that has been canceled was considered 24 essential until the day it was canceled. 25 But now I think you deserve a laugh. I want</p>



# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) MARK STOKES - IDAHO POWER CO.

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1221 W. IDAHO STREET, BOISE, IDAHO

Phone Number (optional) ( ) Email Address (optional)

Today's Date: 6/26/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No IF QUESTIONS

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 were coming along the main artery today that comes past 2 the hospital and then comes to the entrance to our loop, 3 and we were turning onto the main artery from another 4 street, and a very, very large dump truck was wanting to 5 turn onto the street we were turning off of. We had to 6 really get out of the way and move and go a different 7 direction so that truck could get to where it wanted to 8 go. 9 Then as we turned onto our street -- and I've 10 noticed this quite often. Turning onto it, you take up 11 a good part of the street to get around the corner, and 12 then you go a short distance and do the same thing 13 around another corner. And those are rather blind 14 corners that you are going around. Having dump trucks 15 going on the streets that are meant for just local 16 traffic is not going to be at all pleasant for any of 17 us. 18 And so the other business -- also knowing that 19 it's not going to be good for the hospital. We have a 20 helicopter that comes into our hospital, and it comes in 21 at various times. We are all pretty used to that, 22 except it does make a lot of noise and it does bother 23 some people more than others. If they are going to be 24 transporting by helicopter over our houses, this is 25 going to be just dreadful. We don't know really what's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 (Recess taken.) 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Let's reconvene, 3 it's 6 minutes after 6:00. The first order of business 4 is just to confirm that Council Member Mary Winters -- 5 is she still on the line? 6 COUNCILLOR WINTERS: Yes, I'm still on the 7 line. 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: All right. Great. 9 I think you'll want to participate in the decision that 10 Council has before it, the request Council has before 11 it. 12 Before we get to that though, does the Council 13 have any questions for the applicant tonight? 14 MS. TARDAEWETHER: It looks like we have 15 another comment. 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: I have received one 17 more comment card. So before you answer that question 18 and the other question that was presented to you 19 earlier, let's hear from Cynthia Harvey. 20 MS. CYNTHIA HARVEY: Hello. My name is 21 Cynthia Harvey. My residence address is 77647 North 22 Loop Road, Stanfield, Oregon. 23 In March of this year we purchased 1100 acres 24 up in the Meacham area of timberland. As of today we 25 have never received notice from the State of Oregon or</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 going to happen. A lot of people say, Oh, they won't do 2 that. I'm at a point where I don't trust anybody unless 3 I see it in writing they won't do certain things. 4 And so this is why I wanted to speak to you. 5 I know this is not meeting your standards, but there are 6 some things that don't have a written standard. It's 7 just common decency and not being bullied by somebody 8 who wants to have something that you have and they take 9 it away from you, and that is our peace and quiet. 10 Thank you. 11 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 12 All right. Let me circle back. Is there 13 anybody on the phone that wants to give comment? Is 14 there anybody on the phone that would like to give 15 comment? 16 Hearing none, I am thinking that we'll take a 17 break. We'll take about 15 minutes or so, and then 18 we'll reconvene so that Council can consider the 19 request. And in the meantime if there is anybody who 20 hasn't filled out a comment card that wants to give a 21 comment, please do so on the break, and when we come 22 back and reconvene, we'll give you the opportunity to 23 comment. 24 It is 5:49 now, and let's plan on coming back 25 about 5 after 6:00.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 Idaho Power about this project. We have gone online, 2 and according to the map, they want to put five towers 3 on us. So we would be impacted greatly. It would take 4 all our stands of timber, all our best water resources, 5 and basically just destroy our property. 6 So I am concerned that we have never received 7 any kind of notice. So I want that stated in the 8 record. 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: When did you 10 purchase the property? 11 MS. CYNTHIA HARVEY: March. 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Of 2019? 13 MS. CYNTHIA HARVEY: This year. 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Any other things you 15 wanted to bring up tonight, any other issues? 16 MS. CYNTHIA HARVEY: Well, we have a lot of 17 issues, but I think the main one is the lack of 18 notification. 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 20 Is there anybody else, any public comment? 21 Going once, going twice, for now. 22 Council, questions we have for the applicant? 23 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: I do. 24 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Let's bring up 25 Mr. Stokes then.</p>

Page 54	Page 56
<p>1 MR. MARK STOKES: Chairman Beyeler, Vice Chair 2 Jenkins, other Council members, good evening. My name 3 is Mark Stokes, and I'm an engineering project leader 4 with Idaho Power Company. My address is 121 West Idaho 5 Street, Boise, Idaho 83702.</p> <p>6 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 7 Mr. Jenkins.</p> <p>8 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Mr. Stokes, my 9 question relates to forest lands and several of the 10 comments that have been made this evening and previous 11 evenings about impacts to forest lands. The draft 12 proposed order and your application talk about 13 right-of-way widths, and you are analyzing 500 feet, and 14 in some forested areas you'll be as wide as 300 feet, 15 which would be de-timbered for that area.</p> <p>16 And there is some question about whether or 17 not you need to go through some kind of review process 18 at a State level in order to do that. And I wanted to 19 give you an opportunity to talk about crossing forest 20 lands with a high-voltage power line.</p> <p>21 MR. MARK STOKES: Okay. Vice Chair Jenkins, 22 I assume we are talking about private land that is 23 forested as well as US Forest Service Land?</p> <p>24 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: That's correct.</p> <p>25 MR. MARK STOKES: Yeah, there is approximately</p>	<p>1 have heard is the conversion of these forest lands under 2 the power line to some other use, such as livestock 3 grazing. Are you aware of Idaho Power going through a 4 separate process in order to do that?</p> <p>5 MR. MARK STOKES: That is a question I would 6 have to ask David to respond to, if he recalls what our 7 intent was there.</p> <p>8 Are you on the line, David?</p> <p>9 MR. DAVID STANISH: I am.</p> <p>10 MR. MARK STOKES: Did you hear Vice Chair's 11 question?</p> <p>12 MR. DAVID STANISH: I think what I heard was 13 you were wondering if --</p> <p>14 MR. MARKS STOKES: David, hold on a second. 15 They are having a hard time hearing you.</p> <p>16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Mr. Stanish, this is 17 Presiding Hearing Officer Webster. We need to ask you 18 to, I think, speak up a little bit. Because you are 19 coming through the phone, it's not clear and the court 20 reporter does want to take down everything you are 21 saying and get it accurate. So if you could speak up 22 and slow down a little bit, that would be great.</p> <p>23 Do you want to repeat the question, 24 Mr. Stokes?</p> <p>25 MR. MARK STOKES: Yes.</p>
Page 55	Page 57
<p>1 7 miles of US Forest Service land that the project 2 crosses. We would and have been working with the Forest 3 Service on getting a Record of Decision from them, and 4 they will dictate how we handle things on the Forest 5 Service property.</p> <p>6 Specific to the private property, the 7 discussion that you heard tonight, as far as the need 8 for a slightly wider right-of-way width, that is not 9 going to be the entire length through forested land.</p> <p>10 That's going to be highly dependent on the topography of 11 any particular area and the identification of what we 12 would call "problem trees" that are tall enough that if 13 they were to fall over, they could potentially impact 14 the line. So it will be those areas that are 15 specifically targeted where we would have to go with a 16 little bit wider right-of-way, as far as the vegetation 17 management plan and clearing we would do.</p> <p>18 Outside of that, on the private land, 19 obviously, as we go through and negotiate with 20 landowners for the right-of-way acquisition, the forest, 21 the timber value will be factored into all of that.</p> <p>22 Did that address all of your question?</p> <p>23 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS. Yeah.</p> <p>24 So, Mark, one of the questions that has come 25 up I believe a couple of times in the testimony that we</p>	<p>1 David -- and correct me if I get any of this 2 wrong, Council Member. I think the question is on areas 3 that are designated as forestland at this point, is it 4 our intent to try to get those areas recategorized into 5 something under more of an agricultural use designation?</p> <p>6 MR. DAVID STANISH: Okay. I understand. 7 This is David Stanish from Idaho Power. 8 The answer is no, we will not be seeking to 9 rezone forestland areas that are utilized for the 10 right-of-way. The zoning designation is reserved for 11 the property owner. It's up to them how they want to, 12 whether they would like to pursue a change in the 13 building designation or not.</p> <p>14 I also heard a question of whether we were 15 going to go through a different process to authorize the 16 right-of-way through forestland, I believe. And the 17 answer to that is also no. In Exhibit K, we go to great 18 lengths to discuss compliance with the Forest Practices 19 Act and our choice of right-of-way --</p> <p>20 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Mr. Stokes, hold on. 21 So we are having a little bit of -- can you 22 hear me okay, Mr. Stanish? Can you hear me okay? We 23 were having some trouble hearing you.</p> <p>24 For now let's try this: Mr. Stokes, were you 25 able to hear Mr. Stanish's response?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 MR. MARK STOKES: Well, it was basically I 2 think "no" on both counts, that our intent was not to 3 try to rezone any of those designated areas, in a 4 nutshell is what I heard from him. 5 We can certainly follow up with more detail on 6 that in our written comments as well. 7 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Thank you. 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: I believe that the 9 first answer was no, it will be up to the property owner 10 to seek rezoning? Was that what you heard him say? 11 MR. MARK STOKES: He indicated that we would 12 leave any rezoning up to the property owners' desires, 13 that we would not be asking for or pushing for that. 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: And then the second 15 no, they were not aware of any separate process -- 16 MR. MARK STOKES: Yeah. No separate process 17 that we intend to work through. 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Okay. 19 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I have a question for Mark 20 Stokes. 21 On the last lady who spoke to us who said that 22 she had purchased her land in March of 2019 and she had 23 no contact with Idaho Power at all, and so she knew 24 nothing about the fact that you were going to be 25 putting, I think she said five towers on her land.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 had been in contact with them. 2 MR. MARK STOKES: Yes. 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Any other questions 4 for Mr. Stokes? 5 Anything you want to add? 6 MR. MARK STOKES: I have no further comments 7 for tonight. 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Okay. So I guess, 9 Council, you have a request coming before you to extend 10 the comment period. What are your thoughts on that? 11 I'll start. Chair Beyeler? 12 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: This is Hanley. 13 We are required to give 30 days notice; we 14 gave 60. But I think it's reasonable to extend the 15 hearing period for additional written testimony. The 16 request was for 30 days; I think that's reasonable. And 17 so I would make that as a motion that we extend the 18 written portion from July 23rd to August 22nd. July has 19 31 days. And so that would be then the final date for 20 submitting written testimony. That is a formal motion. 21 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I'll second that motion. 22 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: A motion has been made and 23 seconded. Any further discussion? 24 SECRETARY CORNETT: Mr. Chair, just for 25 clarification, August 22nd at 5 p.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 Would you have had contact with the previous 2 owners and, if so, would that not have been their 3 responsibility to inform a buyer of that? 4 MR. MARK STOKES: It certainly -- my thoughts 5 and expectations that the previous owner should have 6 said something. In fact, we ran into a similar 7 situation on Tuesday night of last week, there was a 8 gentleman who just a little bit less than a year ago 9 purchased a piece property in Malheur County, and 10 neither the title company nor the previous owner 11 mentioned anything about the project to him. 12 Now, certainly we would have reached out to 13 the previous owner and tried to make contact, and we've 14 been doing that for well over 10 years now. And 15 unfortunately this -- we try to keep everything up to 16 date, but we are talking, I think it's roughly 700 17 landowners that we are trying to manage along that 18 300 miles. So it's pretty substantial. 19 Now that we are aware of this, we'll certainly 20 reach out and see what kind of issues there are and what 21 we can do. 22 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I think your reaching out 23 would be very good. No. 1, you need to do that. But 24 No. 2, I think that that party needs to address the 25 previous owner as to why they did not disclose that you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that Pacific? 2 SECRETARY CORNETT: Pacific Time. 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Specifically Pacific 4 Time. 5 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Okay. Mr. Secretary, call 6 roll call for vote. 7 SECRETARY CORNETT: Kent Howe? 8 COUNCILLOR HOWE: Yes. 9 SECRETARY CORNETT: Betty Roppe? 10 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: Yes. 11 SECRETARY CORNETT: Hanley Jenkins? 12 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Yes. 13 SECRETARY CORNETT: Mary Winters? 14 COUNCILLOR WINTERS: Yes. 15 SECRETARY CORNETT: And Barry Beyeler. 16 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Aye. 17 SECRETARY CORNETT: Motion carries. 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: So it's official 19 that we have extended the comment period, the public 20 comment period for written testimony to August 22, 21 5 p.m. Pacific Time. 22 Does anybody happen to know what day of the 23 week that is? 24 MR. PATRICK ROWE: Thursday. 25 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thursday,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 August 22nd, 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time, I think. 2 Unless it's Standard Time, but I believe it's Daylight 3 Time at this time of year. 4 One last opportunity for anybody to give 5 comment this evening. I don't know, do we want to -- we 6 will plan to stay around in case somebody comes in later 7 and wants to give comment. But we will go into recess 8 now until somebody comes in, if they do. 9 It is 6:24 p.m. We are in recess. 10 (Recess taken.) 11 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: It's 7:27. We are 12 reconvening for another member of the public to give 13 public comment. 14 If you would hand me your form there. 15 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: I haven't filled it out. 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: You can do it 17 verbally. If you would state your name and your 18 address, please. 19 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: Ed Miltenberger, 803 20 Southwest Court, Pendleton, Oregon. That's my mailing 21 address. The property is, we are located out in the 22 Gerdain [ph] District. My concern, is that where I 23 should start? 24 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Yeah. What issues 25 did you want to raise about the B2H draft proposed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 erosion in a place where erosion really doesn't occur 2 because it is kind of on the knoll of a hill that 3 provides access to this road that is proposed into that 4 property. 5 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Just to clarify, 6 it's a road that they are going to use as an access road 7 or is it going to be -- 8 MR. EDWARD MILTENBERGER: Yeah, it is on the 9 plat, as an aerial plat of it. I see how it would 10 service probably three towers. So if there is any 11 activity in inspecting the towers in the future or just 12 setting them all up, it's going to be pretty hard on 13 this piece of property because it's so sparsely 14 vegetated. The grass out there is pretty fragile. 15 That's kind of what I'm looking out for is 16 that I don't get a runoff problem. It just winds up in 17 the middle of a ravine below it. 18 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: How large an acreage is it? 19 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: 380 acres. 20 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Okay. So that's part of 21 the section. 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Anything else you 23 want to bring up? 24 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: Not at this time, unless 25 there is -- I would be open to the idea of an improved</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 order? 2 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: The issue I want to 3 bring up is just to state here that I'm concerned with 4 the fragile depth of the soil and the traffic across it 5 and the terrain steepness and the topographical outlay, 6 that it's going to be pretty hard on that piece of 7 property. 8 I know I avoid the "trail," as you might call 9 it, and I see they have listed it as a "road." It's 10 really not much of a road because the only thing they 11 use it for is servicing the springs up on top. And I 12 try to stay off of it as much as I can, so as light of 13 traffic as possible because it's so steep. There is 14 some parts of it that stay pretty wet and it tears it up 15 pretty bad. 16 Like I said, the soil is real fragile. The 17 grass that is on it is less than in 2 inches of soil, 18 and I know it takes more than 2 years for some of it to 19 come back in the tracks that I've laid. 20 So with that in mind, the runoff in the spring 21 is terrible up there because we do get a lot of snow, 22 and it stays on pretty good. But when it comes off, you 23 can tell by these ravines in the map, that, boy, there 24 are really torrents that come down out of there. 25 This road is a testimony to a great amount of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 road on the property, but not so much. It's like 2 unpredictable to say that any road up there as a 3 permanent access would do that property any good at all. 4 And if it winds up that way, I would want to be 5 compensated for the upkeep of the road and the 6 preparation to keep it from turning into a complete 7 runoff thing, or someone should be responsible for the 8 terrain. 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 10 MR. ED MILTENBERGER: That's about it. 11 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: It's 7:32 and we are 12 back in recess. 13 (Recess taken.) 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: We are reconvening 15 again. We have another member of the public who wants 16 the opportunity to comment. It is 7:50. We are going 17 to hear from Terry L. Clarke. 18 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: If you would state 19 your name and your address for the record. 20 MR. TERRY L. CLARKE: I'm Terry L. Clarke, 21 1325 Northwest Horn, Pendleton, Oregon. 22 I also represent TJL Ranch, one of the 23 properties impacted by this proposed line. 24 So what I wanted to get on the record is that 25 we object to this, the construction of this line,</p>



# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) MARK STOKES - IDAHO POWER CO.

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1221 W. IDAHO ST., BOISE, ID 83702

Phone Number (optional) ( ) Email Address (optional)

Today's Date: 6/27/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No AT END

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

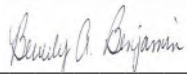
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p>1 38 years to pay for that. It took a long time. I had 2 to pay for -- of course, my folks, I had to pay for 3 them. And then when they died, then they were finally 4 passed on to all the relatives, but then it was all 5 developed and done up in the first place. And I had to 6 add quite a bit for the federal tax payment or income 7 tax. It took a long time, but I finally got that done. 8 Next, one of the things that I find around 9 here is looking -- if you look they have a really nice 10 map out there on the computer up there. That is pretty 11 nice. It's much better than I ever saw anywhere. And I 12 would like to have it bigger and be able to have more 13 items that we can see, just to read the paper. So I 14 don't know why -- I don't why they need to do it so 15 tiny. 16 Some other item, a night from last night, 17 which is last night, it was lightning. And we have a 18 lot of lightning for some reason. They like it in 19 those, it's just partly in the flat county and part of 20 it is up in the hills. They get up pretty close to get 21 it into the mountains. That was a big item. 22 Now, I have many things about the towers, and 23 I don't know about them. I don't know anything about 24 them. Are they made of wood? Are they made of steel? 25 Are they just a single pole that goes up? I haven't</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p>1 MR. MARK STOKES: Good evening, Chair Beyeler, 2 Vice Chair Jenkins, other Council members, staff. Thank 3 you again. 4 My name is Mark Stokes from Idaho Power 5 Company. I'm the engineering project leader for the 6 Boardman to Hemingway Project. My address is 21 West 7 Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho 83702. 8 I do have a few comments I would like to make 9 tonight before we get to some of your questions. To 10 start out with, on Thursday night, last week, there was 11 a person that made a comment that Idaho Power did not 12 have any customers in Oregon, and I attempted to correct 13 that during my testimony at the end after that session. 14 And the number that I put out was incorrect. So I want 15 to get that corrected on the record. 16 The number that I gave you was 15 percent of 17 our load is for Oregon customers. That number is 18 actually approximately 3 1/2 percent of our total load. 19 And then also to add to that, we have a little over 20 19,000 customers between Malheur and Baker County. 21 Let's see, the next piece I wanted to address, 22 and I have been holding off doing this because over the 23 course of last week and the two hearings this week there 24 have been a lot of comments made that really get back to 25 the need for the B2H project, and it really does go back</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p>1 heard anything like that. I thought I got pretty good 2 educated from all these papers that we get once a while, 3 but apparently we don't. 4 Since my farming, there is 2 miles of these 5 towers that go through 2 miles of -- touches to my land. 6 I do not know what the special would be. I understand 7 that it is 6 feet -- or 600 feet wide of something in 8 space in the ground. I don't know that. On my place 9 there is nothing on it except soil and good dirt. 10 Once in a while they used to, they used to 11 have wood posts with a steel fence, just making a fence. 12 It's only 4 feet high. Now we don't have any. We took 13 them all out, cleaned them all up. So that is the way 14 it goes nowadays. 15 But on those towers, do they call them towers 16 or poles, or whatever you call them, how high do they 17 go? How do they go across the ground? Are they a 18 quarter of a mile or are they a few hundred feet? I 19 have not heard any of this. So I'm guessing I'd like to 20 know things that way. 21 I think I'm about done. Thank you very much. 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you, 23 Mr. Myers. 24 Okay. Next we will have Mark Stokes from 25 Idaho Power.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p>1 to the Integrated Resource Planning process. 2 According to EFSC's guidelines, standards, the 3 Council relies on determination of need, they rely on 4 the opinion of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission. 5 There is a fair amount of information in Exhibit N that 6 addresses the IRP and that whole piece of that 7 long-range planning process. We go through and we 8 update that plan every 2 years. 9 The IRP that is in our current application, 10 that is in your hands right now, was filed in 2017, by 11 June of 2017. And it was acknowledged, I believe it was 12 May of 2018 when the Oregon PUC acknowledged that IRP. 13 And it's literally that acknowledgment of the action 14 plan in the IRP that establishes the need for whatever 15 resources or actions are proposed in there. And very 16 specifically in that 2017 IRP, we asked the Commission 17 to acknowledge certain construction activities related 18 to B2H and they did grant that. 19 Jump forward 2 years, right now we have just 20 completed our 2019 IRP that will either be filed 21 tomorrow or next Monday with the Oregon Commission. And 22 our intent is to go ahead and file that with ODOE so you 23 have an updated copy of that. 24 There is a lengthy regulatory process that we 25 have to go through with the PUC, and so I would not</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p>1 anticipate this IRP getting acknowledged until roughly 2 May of 2020. But we will have the document out there 3 and available for anybody to look at. And just for your 4 information, Boardman to Hemingway is still showing to 5 be the lowest cost, least risk resource for meeting 6 future load growth for Idaho Power's customers. 7 The last piece I really wanted to mention is, 8 it's been talked about tonight, I am sure you all 9 remember last night, the Council voted to grant a 30-day 10 extension on the public comment period. And I think 11 when I got up last night, you probably expected me maybe 12 not be in support of that. And I generally wasn't, I'll 13 be honest with you. But I did not want to speak out 14 against that last night, knowing that I was going to 15 come here and ask the Council if you would be willing to 16 grant two things basically is what I would like to ask 17 for. 18 One is that Idaho Power be given an 19 opportunity of an additional 30 days past what is now 20 the August 22nd date to be able to respond to any 21 comments that are filed at the very last minute. We 22 expect there will be quite a few comments that come in 23 right at that 5 p.m. deadline on the 22nd. So we would 24 like to have the opportunity to respond to those if we 25 could.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p>1 alternative routes that are proposed through Morrow 2 County going along the property owned by the Navy. 3 There is a proposed route and then there is two 4 alternatives. Can you talk a little bit about those? 5 Kellen has tried to pull up -- I think tried to pull up 6 a map for us. 7 I have the information here that is in the DPO 8 that talks about where the proposed route is and where 9 the two alternatives are, but it may be best if we heard 10 from you. 11 MR. MARK STOKES: Okay. The proposed route 12 that we started out with initially basically heads south 13 out of the Longhorn substation, and it stays on the west 14 side of Bombing Range Road all the way down that piece 15 of the bombing range. 16 The reason we proposed that was because in the 17 process of working with the landowners who had the 18 agricultural property on the other side of the road, we 19 were trying to avoid impacts to them. And as we 20 continued to work through the process, in working with 21 the Navy, there were two resource areas that were 22 identified that were on the Bombing Range property that 23 were on the west side of Bombing Range Road. And I 24 believe the further north one was the RNA and the 25 southern one was the RMA. And so this whole process is</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p>1 The second part of my request would be that 2 the Council consider taking a vote tonight to not grant 3 anymore further extensions. As we work our way through 4 this process, there have been a lot of deadlines set and 5 very few of them actually met. And I understand that 6 because it's a big public process. 7 But from our standpoint, we are trying to go 8 through this project and the whole permitting that we 9 need to do, and we some need certainty on how we can 10 move forward with this, if we can ultimately get a site 11 certificate, which is what we are trying to do. But 12 again, continued delays just create issues for us. So I 13 would ask the Council to consider that also, if you 14 would, please. 15 And with that, I think I'm just going to turn 16 it over. I know there are probably quite a few 17 questions tonight that Council members will have. And I 18 do have, I believe, David Stanish on the line to help 19 tonight. I think we have a better connection with him 20 tonight than we did last night. 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you, 22 Mr. Stokes. 23 Councillors, questions? 24 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: So this is Hanley. 25 Mark, we haven't heard anything about the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p>1 what led to the two alternatives. 2 Alternative 1 goes down all the way -- or it 3 only goes down to the RNA and then crosses to the east 4 side of Bombing Range Road. So Alternative 1 avoids 5 both of those resource areas. 6 Alternative 2 goes down, still through that 7 RNA, the northern resource area, but then jumps across 8 on the east side prior to the southern resource area 9 there, the RMA. 10 And so because we felt like the Navy would not 11 let us go through either of those resource areas, we 12 have started to pursue Alternative 1. And what that 13 entails again is hopping across Bombing Range Road north 14 of the RNA, the northern resource area, and then heading 15 south along the east side of Bombing Range Road. And to 16 make that work out we have had to work with the property 17 owners on that side and the Umatilla Electric 18 Cooperative because they have got a line there that they 19 have to move to make this work. And we are also with 20 the landowners, we are working with them to move two 21 center pivots to create space for the towers for B2H. 22 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Would that just be 23 shortening pivot circle irrigation spans? 24 MR. MARK STOKES: Chairman Beyeler, we are 25 actually moving the center pivots. We are not reducing</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p> <p>1 any irrigated acreage.</p> <p>2 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Other questions for</p> <p>3 Mr. Stokes?</p> <p>4 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: I have one. Obviously, I</p> <p>5 don't have a chance to look at the 2019 IRP, but what</p> <p>6 actually is in the action plan for B2H?</p> <p>7 MR. MARK STOKES: The action plan items itself</p> <p>8 basically ask for acknowledgement of continued</p> <p>9 construction activities for B2H. So basically there is</p> <p>10 nothing really new in there that we are asking for.</p> <p>11 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Anything else?</p> <p>12 Council?</p> <p>13 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: Two questions: One is --</p> <p>14 this is not the only time we will get a chance to</p> <p>15 address the applicant?</p> <p>16 SECRETARY CORNETT: In terms of their</p> <p>17 responses to comments and giving them sort of an insight</p> <p>18 into what you would like to see them respond to, yes, it</p> <p>19 really is.</p> <p>20 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: Then I have more than one</p> <p>21 question.</p> <p>22 Can you respond to the concerns about fire</p> <p>23 that were shared this evening and what the applicant is</p> <p>24 prepared to address to the property owners' concerns</p> <p>25 about fire?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p> <p>1 and 2022 as well, and that work will be being done and</p> <p>2 being finalized.</p> <p>3 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: I have one other</p> <p>4 question. From the applicant's perspective, are your</p> <p>5 negotiations with the landowners complete, from your</p> <p>6 perspective? We have heard concerns about financial</p> <p>7 compensation. Is that, from the applicant's</p> <p>8 perspective, are those conversations done or are they</p> <p>9 ongoing?</p> <p>10 MR. MARK STOKES: Oh, no, no. In fact, we</p> <p>11 have had numerous conversations with landowners. But</p> <p>12 the formal right-of-way acquisition process has yet to</p> <p>13 begin. In fact, it is on our plan to start that here in</p> <p>14 2020.</p> <p>15 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you,</p> <p>16 Mr. Stokes.</p> <p>17 And I want to sort of circle back to the</p> <p>18 Council now to address Mr. Stokes' request -- or Idaho</p> <p>19 Power's request, the applicant's request, for an</p> <p>20 additional 30 days to respond after close of the comment</p> <p>21 period on August 22nd.</p> <p>22 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: We granted 30 days to</p> <p>23 the public to provide additional written testimony,</p> <p>24 until August 22nd. I think it's only fair to provide</p> <p>25 the applicant additional time to be able to respond to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p> <p>1 MR. MARK STOKES: Yes. There have been a lot</p> <p>2 of concerns expressed over fire. We have got the fire</p> <p>3 prevention protection plan in our application at this</p> <p>4 point. Our intent, and actually I believe we are</p> <p>5 required to do this, is to continue to work through with</p> <p>6 the counties those plans and make revisions so that we</p> <p>7 meet all of the individual county standards. And then</p> <p>8 ultimately I think that is what we have to do to get</p> <p>9 through the BLM process as well. They'll ultimately get</p> <p>10 a notice to proceed. So we recognize there is more work</p> <p>11 to do there.</p> <p>12 A lot of that though is based on -- there is</p> <p>13 certain things associated with the project that we don't</p> <p>14 know yet because there is places where the route is not</p> <p>15 fixed and other issues out there still. But that is in</p> <p>16 our plan to get those plans done, work with the counties</p> <p>17 and get them approved.</p> <p>18 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: What is the expectation</p> <p>19 on timing of knowing it?</p> <p>20 MR. MARK STOKES: Well, that plan and other</p> <p>21 plans would get finalized as a part of working on the</p> <p>22 construction POD, which is a document that BLM kind of</p> <p>23 governs us putting that together because there is a lot</p> <p>24 of different agencies, including BLM, that provide input</p> <p>25 into that. And that should be taking place in 2021 and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p> <p>1 that. And I am open to suggestions if 30 days doesn't</p> <p>2 seem to be appropriate. But I do believe there needs to</p> <p>3 be additional time to respond.</p> <p>4 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: Hanley, are you saying that</p> <p>5 you don't believe 30 days is long enough or too long?</p> <p>6 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: I'm not committed to</p> <p>7 30 days. Thirty days would be adequate, as far as I'm</p> <p>8 concerned.</p> <p>9 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: So are you going to make a</p> <p>10 motion?</p> <p>11 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Well, I thought the</p> <p>12 Council could have a discussion about the 30 days, or</p> <p>13 whatever you want.</p> <p>14 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I think 30 days is</p> <p>15 appropriate.</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: As do I. I'm of the belief</p> <p>17 there are going to be a mountain of things that come in</p> <p>18 at the end of, on the 22nd of August.</p> <p>19 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: I'm okay with providing</p> <p>20 the applicant with the additional time to respond.</p> <p>21 COUNCILLOR HOWE: I think 30 days makes sense.</p> <p>22 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Mr. Chair, I make a</p> <p>23 motion. I move that we grant the applicant an</p> <p>24 additional 30 days, whatever that comes out to, for</p> <p>25 written rebuttal responses to testimony received up to</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 102</p> <p>1 and through August 22nd at 5 p.m. 2 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: That is a Sunday. 3 You said August. Do you mean September? 4 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: An additional 30 days, 5 I didn't check what that date is. 6 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I'll second that motion. 7 SECRETARY CORNETT: If I can just make one 8 minor adjustment to that. That is a Sunday. So 9 September 23rd is a Monday. So September 23rd at 5 p.m. 10 might be a more appropriate time, one extra day, but it 11 puts it on a weekday. 12 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: I agree to that. 13 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I agree with it also. 14 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Mr. Secretary, please call 15 the roll. 16 SECRETARY CORNETT: Kent Howe? 17 COUNCILLOR HOWE: Yes. 18 SECRETARY CORNETT: Ann Gravatt? 19 COUNCILLOR GRAVATT: Yes. 20 SECRETARY CORNETT: Barry Beyeler? 21 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: Aye. 22 SECRETARY CORNETT: Mary Winters? 23 COUNCILLOR WINTERS: Yes. 24 SECRETARY CORNETT: Betty Roppe? 25 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: Yes.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 104</p> <p>1 Power, Idaho Power gets theirs back, staff is going to 2 have a ton of stuff to go through. So yeah, I think 3 that is why we are actually looking at this, we don't 4 want to drag this clear into December. So I just think 5 that getting another extension is going to be difficult 6 out of the Council. 7 SECRETARY CORNETT: No vote. There is not a 8 motion on the floor. 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Okay. Thanks, 10 Council. 11 I'm just going to give one last chance for 12 anybody. We have about 10 minutes left. Does anybody 13 want to say anything or are we good to go? Is there 14 anybody on the phone that would like to give public 15 comment? 16 Okay. Hearing none. It is 7:51 p.m. on 17 June 27, 2019, and as the presiding officer I will go 18 ahead and close the public hearing in Morrow County and 19 end the then public in-person testimony. But we will 20 keep the time period open for the public to continue to 21 comment in written form through August 22nd, 2019, at 22 5 p.m. Pacific Time. 23 That is it for tonight, folks. We are done. 24 (Hearing concluded at 7:51 p.m.) 25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 103</p> <p>1 SECRETARY CORNETT: And Hanley Jenkins. 2 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: Yes. 3 SECRETARY CORNETT: Motion carries, Mr. Chair. 4 VICE CHAIRMAN JENKINS: So as to the second 5 request, I'm not willing to make a commitment on any 6 further extensions. From my perspective, we just need 7 to see how this process evolves. I do find it ironic 8 that Idaho Power asked for 30 days and then it wants to 9 not allow any other extensions. 10 COUNCILLOR ROPPE: I agree with Hanley. I 11 don't see that we want to make a commitment to that 12 since we don't know what would come up before us. We 13 will have to handle that as they come. 14 COUNCILLOR WINTERS: Agreed. 15 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: I'm in concurrence. 16 COUNCILLOR HOWE: I agree. 17 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: So if I understand, 18 you are leaving it at this point that the plan is for 19 August 22nd for the public comment and September 23rd 20 the time for Idaho Power to respond to the public 21 comment. And you are not going to commit one way or the 22 other as to any other extensions, but wait and see how 23 things sort of shake out until August and September? 24 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: By the time the staff gets 25 all of the written comments, delivers them to Idaho</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE</b></p> <p>1 I, BEVERLY A. BENJAMIN, CSR No. 710, Certified 2 Shorthand Reporter, certify: 3 That the foregoing proceedings were taken before 4 me at the time and place therein set forth; 5 That the testimony and all objections made were 6 recorded stenographically by me and transcribed by me or 7 under my direction; 8 That the foregoing is a true and correct record 9 of all testimony given, to the best of my ability; 10 I further certify that I am not a relative or 11 employee of any attorney or party, nor am I financially 12 interested in the action. 13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I set my hand and seal this 14 10th day of July 2019. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <hr/><b>BEVERLY A. BENJAMIN, CSR 710</b> <b>Notary Public</b> <b>P.O. Box 2636</b> <b>Boise, Idaho 83701-2636</b></div>



1995 Third Street  
Baker City, Oregon 97814

August 22, 2019

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E., Salem  
*Sent via e-mail to Kellen.Tardaewether@oregon.gov*

RE: Baker County Comments on the Draft Proposed Order

Ms. Tardaewether and the Energy Facility Siting Council,

These comments on the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order issued May 22, 2019 are submitted on behalf of the Baker County of Commissioners. Please accept these comments into the record for review by the Energy Facility Siting Council.

Baker County's position on the Boardman to Hemingway project remains the same; after reviewing the information submitted by the applicant and the Draft Proposed Order, Baker County continues to believe the project would not be appropriate or suitable in Baker County. The totality of the impact to our landowners, agricultural lands, resources, viewsheds, and tourism values has not been appropriately mitigated through the measures proposed. Furthermore, Baker County will not receive a direct benefit from the project; it's analogous to allowing an interstate highway to be built through Baker County without any on or off ramps.

Baker County continues to object to this project. However, in the event the Energy Facility Siting Council were to approve this application, the following matters included in the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) require either further review or amendment, as appropriate:

#### **Section IV Evaluation of Council Standards**

- Throughout the DPO, the applicant defers a number of important plans such as weed management, emergency response, transportation, and restoration of agricultural lands to a future date that will come after obtaining a Site Certificate. The deferral of these plans makes evaluating the accuracy of the information or the impact to Baker County nearly impossible, and the sparse information provided as part of the application is insufficient for determining compliance with the applicable standards. The DPO deals with these deferred plans by generally stating that they will be approved by the ODOE staff with



opportunity to comment by the County. The details of these plans matter, and Baker County objects to the premise that plans tied to satisfying a review standard can be created outside the process without coordination with the impacted entity or dispute resolution opportunity. Baker County requests that plans impacting Baker County be coordinated with Baker County, either by the applicant or through ODOE staff. If agreement cannot be reached between the applicant, Baker County and the ODOE staff, a dispute resolution process is appropriate and should be outlined prior to the final decision.

- We request that Recommended General Standard of Review 6 on page 53 line 15 under (c) be amended to add local governments be added as follows: In compliance with all applicable permit requirements of other state agencies *and local governments*.

#### **Section IV.E. Land Use**

- The Statewide Planning Goals are evaluated beginning on page 216 at line 21 and continues to page 222 at line 22. Goals 1 – 9, then 12 are discussed; Goals 10, 11, 13 and 14 are not evaluated. The proposal discusses housing stock impacts, which would fall under Goal 10; the impacts to various public services and urban communities are discussed, which would fall under Goals 11 and 14; and since this project is an energy project; energy would fall under Goal 13.
- The County setbacks set forth in BCZSO 401(B) apply to all "structures" as defined in BCZSO 108a(B). Recommended Land Use Condition 10 on page 180 attempts to require compliance with these setbacks, but does not use the term "structures." Instead, the language applies the setbacks only to "buildings" and "the fixed bases of transmission towers," on the theory that these are the only kinds of "structures" that will be built in Baker County as part of the project. That may be, but the condition should nonetheless impose the setbacks on all "structures" as defined in the BCZSO, so as to capture any other structures that may not be anticipated as part of the project at this time. Baker County requests that each of clauses a. through d. of Recommended Land Use Condition 10 should be changed to apply the setbacks to all "structures" as that term is defined in BCZSO 108a(B). This inconsistency was raised in Baker County's comments on the ASC dated December 14, 2018 but not corrected in the DPO.
- Since some of the agricultural land restoration measures to be described in the final Agricultural Assessment expressly will take place after construction is complete, Land Use Condition 14 should be amended accordingly to require compliance with the Agricultural Assessment both during and after construction.
- On page 175-177, the criteria and evaluation of the Virtue Flat Oregon trail is discussed. The applicant notes that the resource is included in the Baker County Comprehensive Plan inventory of Historic and Cultural Sites, Structures, Districts, and proposes an intensive level survey to be consistent with the County's standard included in the BCZSO Section 412. However, the criteria in Section 412 require,

*"At the hearing before the Planning Commission a review will be conducted to determine:*



- a. If the change will destroy the integrity of the resource.*
- b. If the proposal can be modified to eliminate its destructive aspects.*
- c. If any agency or individual is willing to compensate the resource owner for the protection of the resource.*
- d. If the resource can be 1 moved to another location.*

*If, after this review, it is determined by the County that the integrity of a significant historic/cultural structure or other to allow, allow with conditions, or disallow the proposed change.*

A survey alone, without protection measures explicitly required, does not satisfy the standard. To permit the County to meaningfully evaluate the proposed mitigation for impacts on County-designated historic resources, Historic, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources Condition 2 should be modified to require a copy of the final Historic Property Management Plan be provided to the County (and other SAGs).

- Forgive me if this is due to an oversight on my part, but through reading and a word search, I was unable to find an analysis for the Virtue Flat Mining Area (a County historical resource). This was brought forward in Baker County's comments on the ASC dated December 14, 2018, but appears not to have been corrected in the DPO.
- On page 176-177, with respect to the Flagstaff Hill Monument historic resource designated by Baker County, the DPO merely concludes "the Project will not affect the characteristics that make the monument important," but does not explain what those important characteristics are or how the Project will not affect them. This conclusory statement is insufficient for the County to evaluate whether IPC is justified in deciding to not conduct further analysis of this resource, and was brought forward in our comments on December 14, 2018 but not corrected in the DPO.
- Page 217 includes a description of the applicant's attempts to minimize impacts on agricultural operations, but the current route in the Durkee Valley does not reflect that. Baker County also reiterates its concern, originally expressed in its comment letter dated October 2, 2017, and again on December 14, 2018 that route selection near Durkee overemphasized resource values on the BLM property and improperly minimized impacts to nearby private agricultural lands, thereby avoiding BLM property to the maximum extent possible. The proposed route unnecessarily bisects agricultural parcels to the detriment of the landowners despite the fact that alternative routes across those parcels with less adverse impacts are available. Baker County and IPC have reached an agreement in principle to amend the proposed route in the general vicinity of Durkee so that the route, while still on private agricultural lands, has less adverse impacts to Goal 3 values; however, as currently described in the ASC, the proposed route does not implement that agreement. Consequently, Baker County finds that the analysis in the DPO, with respect to the proposed route near Durkee is insufficient to comply with Oregon's protections afforded agricultural land under Goal 3. Additional impacts have been identified in the current proposal that would negatively impact a property owner's (Nygard) domestic water supply, which

is provided by a spring. The amended route discussed above would avoid those impacts, but the current route is likely to be largely detrimental to the landowner's spring.

#### **Section IV.H.1. General Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Goals and Standards**

- Page 282, beginning on line 23, outlines the applicant's plan to address the Fish and Wildlife Habitat standards in OAR 345-022-0060 by finalizing a weed plan currently in draft form. Baker County has a specific interest in the finalization of the weed plan for the purpose of preventing the spread of weeds across the entirety of the project in Baker County, including agricultural lands, right-of-ways, and sensitive sage grouse habitat. As you may be aware, there are serious concerns about the Sage-grouse population in the Baker PAC, and it is a matter of utmost importance to Baker County habitat degradation be prevented.

Attachment P1-5 (Draft Noxious Weed Plan) includes the statement, *"For EFSC purposes, IPC is not responsible for controlling noxious weeds that occur outside of the Project ROWs or for controlling or eradicating noxious weed species that were present prior to the Project."* This statement is contradictory to the Oregon Weed Law identified in ORS 569.390: *"Each person, firm or corporation owning or occupying land within the district shall destroy or prevent the seeding on such land of any noxious weed"*. The remainder of the statement included on page 3 of Attachment p1-5 implies that the applicant intends to comply with ORS 569, however, if an existing weed infestation is identified, it's important that spread is prevented regardless of the outcome of the applicant working with the landowner or land management agency.

The applicant has committed to managing noxious weeds consistent with ORS 569 and the Baker County Noxious Weed Management Plan. Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 3, in turn, obligates the applicant to obtain final ODOE approval of its Noxious Weed Plan. Again, the rationale for providing final plans to the County (and other SAGs) applies here – Baker County should have the opportunity to review the final plan to ensure it complies with the Baker County Noxious Weed Management Plan. Fish and Wildlife Condition 6 should be revised accordingly.

IPC has committed to working with the County on this matter, and the County requests this be included as a condition.

Baker County requests the following amendments to Recommended Fish and Wildlife Condition 3, or inclusion of an additional condition:

- Assurance written into the text of the condition that the spread of existing weed infestations is prevented.
- Baker County should have the opportunity to review the final plan to ensure it complies with the Baker County Noxious Weed Management Plan
- A contractor with extensive knowledge of the local weeds and best methods for control is utilized by the applicant.



- Baker County reiterates its recommendation that a condition of approval be adopted obligating IPC to provide a bond specifically to secure its weed management obligations. This bond should remain in place until 10 years after construction of the project is complete. Weed management is an ongoing obligation during project construction and operation, not just an obligation associated with retirement and decommissioning.

## Section IV.J Scenic Resources

An analysis of the scenic resources in Baker County that would be impacted by the project begins on page 357. Approximately fifteen of the scenic resources evaluated are in Baker County, a number of which are significantly visually impacted. Over 70 miles of transmission line are proposed transecting Baker County, the cumulative visual impact is both large, and largely unmitigated. Baker County is known for its scenic quality, and a 500 kV transmission line will be detrimental to those qualities, which will in turn harm both the Baker County tourism industry and the scenic qualities residents enjoy. Baker County disagrees with the statement made in a number of the scenic resources evaluations that there will be impacts, but because other siting choices are not ideal, the scenic resource is not impacted. Other siting factors do not change the scenic impact, and the impacts are not appropriately mitigated.

- Regarding NHOTIC, Baker County agrees with Recommended Scenic Resources Condition 2 as partial mitigation for the visual impact to the Center, especially the proposal for the lower H-frame structures. Baker County is appreciative of the information provided in the errata documents describing the potential impacts of an underground line in the area. It's clear that the impact to landowners would be unacceptable along the proposed route in proximity to the NHOTIC, and the visual impacts would still be significant.

*Scenic Resources Condition 2: During construction, to avoid significant adverse impacts to the scenic resources at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretative Center, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet the following criteria between approximately Milepost 145.1 and Milepost 146.6:*

- a. H-frames;*
- b. Tower height no greater than 130 feet; and*
- c. Weathered steel (or an equivalent coating).*

*Additionally, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet the following criteria between approximately Milepost 146.6 and Milepost 146.7:*

- a. H-frames;*
- b. Tower height no greater than 154 feet; and*
- c. Weathered steel (or an equivalent coating).*

## IV.M Public Services

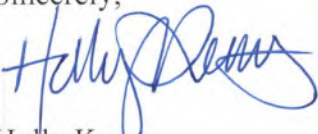
- The listing of fire departments found in Table PS-9 on pages 505 and 506 does not list the Huntington Fire Department, however, it appears the project will be within their response area. Page 193 line 11 notes that a multi-use yard will be within the City of Huntington, other project components appear to be in close proximity. This concern was brought forward in comments submitted on December 14, 2018 but has not been corrected in the DPO.
- Baker County reiterates its concerns expressed in prior comments that the ASC provides insufficient mitigation for fire risk and medical emergencies. With respect to fire, much of the land in Baker County has minimal fire protection available.
- Lines 2-8 on page 508 state that lands that are not within a fire district will be covered by mutual aid. While that may be true under ideal circumstances, in areas outside of a fire district or association, there is no guarantee of fire response. Mutual aid agreements as used in this context are between two fire response organizations who have like resources to 'trade', they are not made to cover lands that don't fall within any jurisdiction's response territory. The assumptions made in the ASC are therefore not accurate, and cannot be utilized to demonstrate compliance with the public services standard because they do not accurately account for the project's impact or the reality of fire response in the project area. Baker County disagrees with the statement that the project will not have significant impacts on fire protection services. The DPO describes precisely why the fire protection impact is significant – most construction will occur during hot and dry weather, when fire risk is highest, in grassland and shrub-dominated landscapes particularly vulnerable to fire. Project construction involves many potential fire-inducing activities including use of motorized vehicles and equipment, welding, refueling and smoking. As we know from the last few summers, fire risk is already elevated in eastern Oregon even without introducing increased fire hazards into remote areas. Given the high fire risk and the minimal available public services, IPC needs a more robust Fire Prevention and Suppression Plan. IPC needs to be required to provide meaningful mitigation for the impact, such as a full complement of fire protection equipment and trained firefighting personnel on site during construction, as well as an emergency plan coordinated with the County Emergency Management staff. This plan must be coordinated with the County and fire response agencies. IPC has committed to working with the County on this matter, and the County requests this be included as a condition.
- Lines 35-36 on page 508 identify calling the nearest fire response agency as part of the protocol for responding to a fire start. Baker County requests this language be updated to state that fire starts will be reported to the appropriate fire dispatch center, the numbers for which will be included in an emergency response plan all onsite project managers carry a copy of at all times, or by calling 911.
- Page 511 lines 9-14 discuss a hazard brought to the applicant's attention about fighting fire near energized power lines, and a statement is included that the applicant will provide firefighting agencies contact information for their dispatch center. Baker County requests this element be explicitly included as a part of the conditions of approval so it is not overlooked.



- Recommended Public Service Condition 5 requires coordination with each County's Planning Department, but the Planning Department is not a representative of fire response agencies. Replacing this language with just "County and impacted fire response agencies" will allow for the appropriate review to take place.
- With regard to medical emergencies, response times to some portions of the project route can exceed one hour, which could then be followed by long travel to a hospital in Baker City, La Grande, Ontario or even Boise depending on the event. To improve response time, IPC should be required to develop a specific Medical Response Plan and have all onsite project managers carry a copy of the plan at all times. The plan should specifically require advance notice to ambulance and life-flight services of active construction locations, and should pre-identify life-flight landing locations near the work zone. If predicted response times are likely to adversely impact an ambulance service provider's ability to provide services, and it's reasonable to believe having an ambulance committed to a call for multiple hours will, IPC is required to mitigate the impact. This plan must be coordinated with the County and medical response providers. IPC has committed to working with the County on this matter, and the County requests this be included as a condition.

If you have any questions or would like further information on Baker County's comments, please contact me by calling 541-523-8219 or by e-mail at [hkerns@bakercounty.org](mailto:hkerns@bakercounty.org).

Sincerely,



Holly Kerns  
Planning Director





# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) MARK BERINGET - Commissioner

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1995 Third Street  
Bunker City

Phone Number (optional) (541) 523-8200 Email Address (optional) mark.beringet@hobacker.com

Today's Date: 6/19/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No     

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 Please be respectful of the allotted time and the other 2 speakers. 3 If I or a Council member asks a person giving 4 testimony questions, the time will be stopped for the 5 question and response time, and then restarted to 6 provide the commenter the full time allotted. Any 7 requests made to EFSC will be brought up at the 8 conclusion of the public testimony opportunity of the 9 hearing. 10 Today's hearing, as well as all of the public 11 hearings on the B2H draft proposed order are being 12 documented by a certified court reporter, and there will 13 be transcripts of the testimony made available after 14 completion of the public hearings. We are also 15 recording today's hearings. The presentations, written 16 comments, and oral testimony are part of the decision 17 record for the proposed facility. 18 Now, here's the important stuff that we need 19 to get on the record. Pursuant to OAR 20 345-015-0220(5)(a) and (b), please note the following: 21 "A person who intends to raise any issue that may be the 22 basis for a contested case must raise the issue in 23 person at the hearing or in a written comment submitted 24 to the Department of Energy before the July 23rd 25 deadline stated in the notice of the public hearing.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 representing Baker County Board of Commissioners. So 2 thank you to Vice Chair Jenkins, Hanley, and the rest of 3 the members. Thank you once again. 4 Baker County would like to, as I mentioned, 5 thank you for coming out here, meeting and hearing the 6 folks. Baker County has participated in this project 7 for actually 12 years. Prior to even the initial onset, 8 we met with Idaho Power and discussed the vision I guess 9 at that point. So we have really been engaged from the 10 get-go on this entire project. 11 We can safely say, between my colleague 12 Planning Director Holly Kerns and myself, we have not 13 missed one meeting through the entire process, through 14 the BLM process, through the Community Advisory Process 15 that Idaho Power put on, and also comments and 16 objections during the entire process. 17 Baker County's position from the get-go, and 18 continues to this day, is that we do not support a line 19 going through Baker County for 71 miles; 71 miles of our 20 county is being transected by this line. And 25 percent 21 of the entire project is in Baker County, and yet the 22 critical point is, Baker County has not received any 23 mitigation in the form of a point of presence here. 24 This is not in keeping with our comprehensive land use 25 plan, which says -- and I'm paraphrasing here -- I</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 "A person who intends to raise any issue that 2 may be the basis for a contested case must raise the 3 issue with sufficient specificity to afford the Council, 4 the Department of Energy and the applicant an adequate 5 opportunity to respond, including a statement of facts 6 that support the person's position on the issue. 7 To raise an issue in a contested case 8 proceeding, the issue must be: Within the Council's 9 jurisdiction; raised in writing or in person prior to 10 the close of the record of the hearing comment period, 11 July 23, 2019; raised with sufficient specificity to 12 afford the Council, the Department, and the applicant an 13 adequate opportunity to respond; to raise an issue with 14 sufficient specificity a person must present facts that 15 support the person's position on the issue. 16 We'll now begin with the public testimony. I 17 have 5:01 p.m. And a reminder, when you sit down to 18 give your testimony, please provide your name and 19 address for the record at the beginning of your 20 testimony. 21 The first person to call up is Mark Bennett, 22 and then after Mr. Bennett, we'll hear from Whit 23 Deschner. 24 MR. MARK BENNETT: Good evening. Welcome to 25 Baker County. I'm Mark Bennett, Commissioner, and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 should mention that we will be submitting written 2 comments. I'm going to give kind of a 747 view of the 3 project from our eyes, but we will submit by the 23rd 4 comments. 5 But 25 percent of this entire project is in 6 Baker County. And we do not have a substation, we do 7 not have any opportunity to directly utilize the line, 8 which is a requirement within our comprehensive land use 9 plan. There is no direct benefits, as I mentioned, to 10 the economy or to the environment of Baker County. And 11 the impact to the Baker County economic drivers outweigh 12 the minimal tax benefits that the County will be 13 receiving. 14 Baker County participated, along with our 15 community, in a year-long process initiated by Idaho 16 Power, called the Community Advisory Process. This 17 process caused our communities to view that their voice 18 would be heard. That was set aside and actually thrown 19 in the dustbin when we went through the NEPA process. 20 Because at that point, here you have 83 percent of this 21 line on private lands and yet for less than 20 percent 22 ownership, the federal government dictated where this 23 line would go. They obviously, surprisingly not, they 24 dictated that it wouldn't be on federal lands but it 25 would be impacting private lands. 73 percent of this</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 line is on private lands in Baker County and yet the 2 Baker County voice is silenced in a number of these 3 areas. 4 As I said, the outcome, and I really recall 5 one of my constituents here, Bruce Owens, going, You 6 know, Mark, we don't want this line but if we can come 7 up with this route, it will be tolerable. I didn't ask 8 you, Bruce, hopefully I didn't get you out of context 9 there. 10 But that to me is really sad. It's really sad 11 as an elected official. This is a David-Goliath type of 12 a situation. Baker County utilized its resources, and 13 we're a small county, to attend those meetings, to 14 perform context. And I do have to really thank the 15 Oregon Department of Energy, Todd and his staff, they 16 assisted us and worked with us the entire time. They 17 were able -- and the Council was able to give us some 18 funding for comments later on. But all during the NEPA 19 process, the counties bore the cost all by themselves. 20 And I guess that's for good or bad but that's the way it 21 is. 22 Shifting the direction, as mentioned earlier, 23 Baker County has two principal economic drivers or 24 engines: Agriculture, which is primarily the beef 25 industry; and tourism. We have the uninterrupted</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 Hanley and I were laughing at the beginning. 2 We have 7 feet long of records and I don't even know how 3 many file boxes. 4 Ag is not only directly affected -- or 5 threatened by the line, there is an inaccurate invasive 6 weed section. Your draft order fails to provide 7 continuous inspections and treatment for the life of the 8 project. The wildfire section does not address the 9 risks that occurred in the Paradise disaster. Lack of 10 long-term support to the rural fire agencies, the roads 11 impact. Just mentioning the more superficial areas of 12 weakness. 13 Perhaps the largest unaddressed threat is on 14 the horizon. The proposed line placement will transect 15 Baker County, causing the Baker County sage-grouse 16 primary area of concern, which is the northwestern-most 17 population of sage-grouse, greater sage-grouse, to be 18 isolated from the remainder of all sage-grouse habitat 19 and populations in the western United States. This in 20 turn may, at a future date, result in a review of the 21 Baker pack and a determination that it's a distinct 22 subpopulation, which would then cause a listing of the 23 bird as a threatened and endangered species within Baker 24 County. This will devastate the cattle industry and the 25 economy of the county. Once again, no mitigation has</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 viewshed, we have wildlife, solitude, and as Kellen so 2 adequately addressed, the NHOTIC, or the National 3 Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. 4 But both of these economic drivers are 5 impacted by this project. As I mentioned earlier, a 6 71-mile long freeway, 83 percent of the private land 7 transecting Baker County with no on or off-ramps, 8 25 percent of this entire project. 9 The ag industry will be impacted through the 10 placement of towers on the EFU lands nearly the entire 11 route, and on the high-value grounds as you look out 12 here in Baker valley. 13 And it's also important to note that in Baker 14 County, in excess of 70 percent of the producers are 15 64 years of age or older. The application fails to 16 address this social justice issue. And I serve on the 17 Governor's Ag Heritage Commission and am well aware of 18 this throughout the state of Oregon. The expectation 19 that folks in this age bracket are able to review and 20 respond to the thousands of pages created by this 21 project are, at best, incredulous and sadly 22 discouraging. The taxpayers would be victimized by the 23 companies and agencies who have an expectation of them 24 to not only digest the work but make detailed responses 25 to this extensive criteria.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 been offered. 2 In the interest that I've gone on a little 3 longer, I'm going to quickly just jump to the bottom. 4 And here's -- even though I'm speaking for my three 5 colleagues, too, I was going to beg for more time. 6 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Do you need more 7 time? We can -- 8 MR. MARK BENNETT: I probably need about 9 2 minutes more. 10 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: That's fine. 11 MR. MARK BENNETT: Thank you. 12 As Kellen pointed out, the NHOTIC, National 13 Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, is best 14 described as the crown jewel of eastern Oregon tourism. 15 Individuals travel daily from all over the world to 16 connect with the Oregon Trail. The line will be in the 17 front picture window of the NHOTIC, the Trail 18 Interpretive Center. And no mitigation offered. 19 Baker County and the community has requested 20 time and time again that a study be conducted to 21 determine the feasibility, or that it doesn't work, of 22 burying the line over that period, and we continue to 23 put that request forward. And we would request that it 24 be an ODOE directed to the panel in that analysis. 25 We also request that there is no impact to the</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 ag industry without mitigation, and we will provide a 2 detailed summary of those impacts. 3 Probably one that's near and dear to our 4 hearts is that the county ag producers and Idaho 5 Power -- and I want to compliment the field staff, they 6 have worked closely with that -- but bureaucracies, be 7 what they may, it hasn't come. We've requested a line 8 placement movement, a micrositing, within the Durkee 9 area, and at this point it hasn't occurred. And we 10 would request, as a condition of approval, that the 11 Council direct that this occur. That it meets the 12 needs, that, once again, that it causes the least impact 13 to the landscape and to those managing the land here and 14 to the residents. Once again, these residents are in 15 excess of 65, 70 years old, and impacting their entire 16 life and their way of life is just really tough. 17 We also, in closing, request that the Baker 18 County comprehensive land use plan requirement of 19 benefit to Baker County be met in that a guaranteed 20 point of presence be placed in Baker County to serve as 21 mitigation to meet future requirements for needs of the 22 economy of Baker County. 23 Are there any questions? 24 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: No. Thank you. 25 MR. MARK BENNETT: Thank you very much.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 MR. WHIT DESCHNER: OAR 345-025-0007, the real 2 issues. 3 Ethics. 4 (a) in 2007, B2H was announced. No vote was 5 offered whether the people wanted it or not. 6 (b) Under Governor Tom McCall, an energy 7 corridor was established for high-voltage power line 8 routes. It was a low-impact route. When Idaho Power 9 proposed B2H, they either ignored or deemed this route 10 too costly. 11 (c) Idaho Power is a for-profit corporation 12 traded on the New York Stock Exchange. 13 Roman numeral i. This brings up conflicts of 14 interests. What is right for IPC's shareholders is not 15 always in the best interest of the public. Idaho Power 16 Corporation will turn a profit to satisfy shareholders 17 at the expense of Baker County and eastern Oregon. With 18 sparse population, Idaho Power rides roughshod through 19 the county, dictating how and where they choose to run 20 the line. 21 Also, Roman numeral ii. A crooked playing 22 field. Opponents are not given adequate or the same 23 amount of time as Oregon Department of Energy or Idaho 24 Power to review new documents or developments. 25 And Roman numeral iii. Skewed data, like</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: After we hear from 2 Mr. -- assuming it's Mr. Deschner, it will be Karen 3 Yeakley. 4 MR. WHIT DESCHNER: My name is Whit Deschner. 5 I live at 1640 3rd Street, Baker. 6 I want to preempt this speech, out of 7 frustration, if I say anything to Idaho Power about 8 Idaho Power, please don't take it personally. You're 9 probably real nice people. 10 I appreciate the Council for hearing me. And 11 I appreciate Marcy Grail for recusing herself off of 12 this case. And also I want to thank Mark Bennett and 13 Holly for their work on this. 14 Upon reviewing the discrepancy in the 20,000 15 or so EFSC standards in Oregon Administration Rule, I 16 have found a serious flaw. Oregon Administration Rule 17 345-025-0007 is missing. Upon further investigation, I 18 discovered that the key set of OARs was redacted with 19 white-out. I failed to find the original version but I 20 have a good idea why this was omitted. Unfortunately, I 21 can't replicate the legalese of this administrative rule 22 nor do I speak the language but I can give you the gist. 23 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Mr. Deschner, if you 24 want to slow down just a stitch so that the court 25 reporter can take everything down.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 averaging numbers to falsify state or bend IPC's 2 position. 3 (d) The Interpretive Center opened in 1992 4 through a highly effective partnership of local, state, 5 and federal government agencies, nonprofit 6 organizations, and local residents. I'll read that 7 again. 8 The Interpretive Center opened in 1992 through 9 a highly effective partnership of local, state, and 10 federal government agencies, nonprofit organizations, 11 and local residents. There was a gentlemen's 12 understanding that nothing would be built in the 13 viewshed of the Center, nor did anyone dream that the 14 view would be degraded in such a manner. Nothing was 15 signed but this was Baker and handshakes were valid and 16 honored. 17 (e) Idaho Power is proposing to blatantly run 18 their up to 190-foot tall pylons in front of the BLM's 19 Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. Where is the BLM's 20 voice in all of this? Why are they allowing a 21 corporation to build in front of the BLM historical 22 center, ruining the whole historical presentation of 23 what the taxpayers' \$16 million national showcase 24 interpretive center represents? 25 Conclusion.</p>





# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) Bruce Nichols - Baker ~~County~~ Commissioner

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1140 E St  
Baker City, OR 97814

Phone Number (optional) ( ) Email Address (optional) brucenicholspa@gmail.com

Today's Date: 6-19-19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No       

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly - Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

no mitigation ~~none~~

Duckee - made agreements with property - farm ground

ODOE - Conduct analysis of burial to mitigate

visual impact of interpretive center

OR compensatory mitigation for Baker County

Comply with Baker County Landuse Plan - <sup>We need a</sup> substation

for Baker County Economic Development - more power ~~for~~  
business + manufact

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 down the freeway. There's two roads on Highway 30, 2 Interstate 84, and there is a railroad track with 3 multiple tracks through Durkee. There's a gas line -- 4 two gas lines, as a matter of fact. And already at 5 least one power line that I know of. 6 And why they deviated from that direct route 7 up the power corridor in Durkee, I have no idea. But 8 they have put -- they've deviated to the southwest right 9 through the middle of my ranch. I mean, right through 10 the middle of my ranch. 11 I've had some discussions with Idaho Power, 12 and they have talked to me about maybe running it down 13 the south border of my ranch and then up the west side. 14 I said if worse comes to worse, I can agree to that. 15 But then I found out that they won't even talk to me 16 about it with any authority until after this meeting 17 that we have now and after the Siting Commission comes 18 up with their comments. 19 So I really have no good feelings about what 20 may happen. They've not promised me anything at all 21 except that they would avoid my cabin and my house by 22 the noise allotment area of 2,000 feet. Which, I mean, 23 that's nice I guess. But still right through the middle 24 of the ranch. It's been a lifelong dream, and I resent 25 it very much.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 tonight. 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Mr. Nickels. Thank 4 you. 5 COMMISSIONER BRUCE NICKELS: Thank you for 6 making me first. 7 So basically what I'm going to do is reiterate 8 what Baker County's position is. And one, the first 9 thing, there's no mitigation for the people that have 10 been promised things from Idaho Power in Durkee. And 11 the farm ground there is important to people. And 12 there's been cases that there's other sites that are 13 better. 14 Anyway, that's what I wanted to say. They 15 were promised they would be taken care of. That's now 16 been taken away, for whatever reason, I don't know. 17 There's also the Oregon Department of Energy. 18 There hasn't been any analysis done of burial to 19 mitigate the visual impact of the Interpretive Center or 20 compensatory mitigation for Baker County. That 21 Interpretive Center is very important to tourism for our 22 whole county and all of eastern Oregon. Tourism is very 23 important to Baker, and we have a hard enough time 24 trying to build that up and then you take away the 25 visual aspect of it, and you're making us go backwards</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 And you know, if it was in a direct route 2 through the area, I could understand it. But they're 3 actually leaving the power corridor by about 2 1/2 miles 4 to come through my place. And for the life of me, I 5 don't understand why. And I would appreciate it if 6 someone would tell me the reason for that. 7 Those are the comments I have. They're 8 personal and I feel very strongly about them. 9 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 10 MR. BRUCE OWEN: Do you have any questions? 11 CHAIRMAN BEYELER: No. 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Okay. It is 13 2 minutes to 6:00. Why don't we take a break and we'll 14 try and get everybody back and reconvene about 6:15. 15 (Recess taken.) 16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: All right. Thanks 17 everybody for taking your seat again. We're back on. 18 We have one more commenter before we hear back 19 from Idaho Power. And Commissioner Bruce Nickels wanted 20 to make a statement? 21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Off microphone.) 22 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Ma'am, I was just 23 clarifying that this is an opportunity to give your 24 comment, but the Council is not going to be answering 25 questions. But you'll have your opportunity to be heard</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p>1 again. And we get nothing other than grief out of it. 2 The last thing, you didn't comply with Baker 3 County's land use plan. We need a substation if you're 4 going to put this thing here. And I know substations 5 cost a lot of money but Baker County is getting really 6 nothing out of this but grief. And with power, extra 7 power for Baker, we have a chance of some economic 8 development. We need some or a lot of power for 9 manufacturing and also business. If we don't have that, 10 Baker County has little chance to grow because we don't 11 have enough power; we can't attract those kind of 12 businesses. 13 So that's all I have to say. Other than the 14 fact I personally don't want to look at the dang lines 15 because I'm living very close to the freeway so I will 16 be able to see them, whether they're brown or whatever 17 color you want to make them. So I really don't want to 18 look at those. You should have put them on the other 19 side of somebody else's hill. 20 So thank you. 21 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. And 22 we'll need the green sheet. 23 MR. BRUCE NICKELS: Yes. I told you I'd give 24 you that. 25 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: And I don't know if</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p>1 you provided your address at the outset but if you could 2 do that. 3 MR. BRUCE NICKELS: I live at 1140 F Street in 4 Baker City, Oregon. I am a Baker County Commissioner. 5 And I have a phone number and everybody can call me and 6 talk to me about it. 7 Thank you. 8 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you, 9 Mr. Nickels. 10 And did you want to -- 11 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: Yes. 12 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: So this is, is it 13 Christine Menolascina? 14 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: Menolascina. 15 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Menolascina, okay. 16 We'll hear from Ms. Menolascina and then we 17 will also hear from Fuji Kreider before we -- I'm going 18 to have Idaho Power go last just so it can have the 19 opportunity to respond to some of the concerns that have 20 been raised. So if you want to have a seat. 21 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: I'll stand. It's 22 Christine, C-h-r-i-s-t-i-n-e, Menolascina is 23 M-e-n-o-l-a-s-c-i-n-a. 24 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: If you could provide 25 an address for us, please.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p>1 were put up not far from here, just up on the ridge, I'm 2 sure everybody can point out where it is or what they 3 call the Stonehenge snow fence, which was an eyesore and 4 not correctly placed, was put along 84 up here. 5 People do notice. But they're at home sitting 6 on Facebook pushing "like," but I am not; I am here 7 because this is what makes a difference. 8 So my question is, since everybody is here -- 9 is there a representative from Idaho Power here? No? 10 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: No, I believe we 11 will hear from somebody from Idaho Power. 12 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: And there is 13 somebody here in this room that can hear my voice? 14 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Yes. 15 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: Okay. So to that 16 person who has pitched a bid to whoever to build these 17 and start finding out everything there is to know about 18 where to put 80 towers, how many towers are there going 19 to be in Baker County? How many towers are there going 20 to be from Boardman to the border? How many towers 21 along 84? How many towers along a mile? 22 There are federal regulations that I'm sure 23 that they know about. State regulations. I grew up in 24 southern California; I know these towers. They are 25 God-awful, unsightly, noisy, cancer-causing interruption</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p>1 MR. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: Um-hmm. It's PO 2 Box 84, Baker City, Oregon 97814. 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 4 MS. CHRISTINE MENOLASCINA: Hi. So here in 5 Baker, I think people have felt railroaded a little bit. 6 I've known this meeting is coming. I didn't know about 7 the previous meetings. 8 So my understanding is Idaho Power needs more 9 power for its citizens, and it does have some of eastern 10 Oregon, Malheur County, which is I believe east of here, 11 more Ontario, and then to Blackfoot, Idaho. So it 12 really doesn't affect too much of Baker or Boardman, or 13 any of the beautiful land it will be going through. 14 Though a lot of it will be on irrigation and 15 farmland, a lot of it will be going through some of our 16 favorite places; La Grande, Pendleton, over the 17 mountains, where truck drivers from all over the country 18 see that, travelers from all over the country see that. 19 Down 84 here where people traveling from Utah, Idaho, 20 and everywhere else go down this freeway. 21 I understand it goes through Morgan Lake, one 22 of my favorite fishing places, along with probably many 23 others that people aren't aware of, because a lot of 24 people don't get the paper here or a lot of people don't 25 think that it will affect them. But when the windmills</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p>1 of solitude and peace of mind, knowing that something is 2 humming overhead, drawing power from out of your area, 3 crossing through your yards, over your children, your 4 food, your house, your land, to eastern Idaho. Where in 5 return, they will give us, we can draw off the solar 6 power, 4 percent they get from solar power which they 7 buy from Phoenix because they can't guarantee sunshine. 8 We're in Oregon; nobody guarantees sunshine. 9 So why not run it down the Snake River? 10 Because it's a couple miles shorter. Why not run it 11 through eastern Washington and down the border? Because 12 it affects everybody. Yes, everybody needs power. I 13 use blow dryers, I like coffee in the morning, everybody 14 does. But these are gigantic, monster towers. And you 15 don't put just one or we don't know how many, somebody 16 knows. I have a friend who puts up solar or puts up the 17 windmills, and before it even hits the table, those 18 engineers know that -- this is what I was told -- it 19 depends on how many feet it rises above the previous 20 tower. 21 Now, we all go to La Grande to go shopping at 22 Walmart because we have one grocery store in this town. 23 So going from Walmart, do you think you're going to stay 24 the same level or do you think you go up 2 feet, 5 feet, 25 a hundred feet? How many towers are going to go in</p>

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Carla McLane <cmclane@co.morrow.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Cc:** Roberta Lutchter; Darrell Green; Melissa Lindsay; RUSSELL Don; Jim Doherty; Matt Scrivner; Sandra Pointer; Dave Pranger; Maffuccio, Jeff; Steve Rhea; rusty2550@yahoo.com; mrogelstad@boardmanfd.com; mbroadbent@boardmanfd.com; heppnerchamber@centurytel.net  
**Subject:** [Fortimail Spam Detected] Morrow County: B2H DPO Comment Letter  
**Attachments:** 08222019 B2H DPO Comment Letter signed.pdf

Kellen,  
Please find attached the Morrow County comment on the B2H DPO.  
Sorry we'll miss you this afternoon. Don't get too buried in these comment letters!!  
Cordially,  
Carla

Carla McLane, MBA  
Morrow County Planning Director  
205 Third Street NE  
Post Office Box 40  
Irrigon, Oregon 97844  
541-922-4624  
[cmclane@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:cmclane@co.morrow.or.us)



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

PO Box 40 • 205 Third Street NE  
Irrigon, Oregon 97844  
(541) 922-4624

August 19, 2019

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Ms. Tardaewether, *Kellen*

This letter, prepared and delivered by the Morrow County Planning Director, is comment from the Morrow County Board of Commissioners, serving as the Special Advisory Group, or SAG, for the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line project. It is hard to believe that we are finally here. Morrow County's involvement in this project dates back to 2007, now a dozen years ago.

In reviewing the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) the following have come to our attention that we are asking for either further review or amendment, as appropriate:

- Pine City Road: On page 23, line 27, there is a reference to Pine City Road. There is not a Pine City Road in Morrow County. In previous comment Morrow County identified that the misnamed road is most likely Little Butter Creek Road (Morrow County comment letter 09142017).
- General Standard of Review: This discussion begins on page 47 line 17. There are two comments related to this section.
  - A typographical error occurs on pages 50, 51 and 53 in the heading of Conditions 1, 2 and 5 where the words "Standard of Review" are currently written as "of Review Standard."
  - Morrow County would like to request that as part of Recommended General Standard of Review 6 on page 53 line 15 under (c) the counties be added as follows: In compliance with all applicable permit requirements of other state agencies *and counties*.
- Land Use: The discussion of land use begins on page 95 line 32 with the Morrow County discussion beginning on page 100 line 20. As part of the discussion concerning facility components on land zone General Industrial and Port Industrial there is a clear requirement for the facility to obtain a Zoning Permit. However, no Zoning Permit is called out in Land Use Condition 1(a). We ask that this be added to that list of necessary permits.

Because the transmission line is an "utility facility necessary" and is not subject to Conditional Use Permit review, coupled with the goalpost rule retaining review under an older version of the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance, there is a bit of frustration in that the Department has determined that no permits should be issued for the facility on land zoned as Exclusive Farm Use. Other recent transmission line permits that have been issued in Morrow County have been

completed as a Land Use Decision, requiring notice and review under the standards found in Oregon Revised Statute 215.275. Morrow County would request that a requirement be added to Land Use Condition 1 requiring the applicant to obtain a Land Use Decision for the portion of transmission facility on land zoned for Exclusive Farm Use. This would keep Morrow County whole under Oregon Revised Statute 469.401 by allowing us to issue a permit and retaining our authority to obtain an application fee.

- **Statewide Planning Goals:** An evaluation of the Statewide Planning Goals begins on page 216 at line 21 and continues to page 222 line 24 where the Goal 4 Exception discussion begins. Goal 1 through 9 and then 12 are discussed; not identified or discussed are Goal 10, 11, 13 and 14. Yet each of those aspects of Statewide planning are contained within the DPO. Temporary housing and impacts to housing stock is discussed (Goal 10); the need for various public services and impacts to urban communities are reviewed (Goals 11 and 14); and the entire notion of this project being reviewed by the Oregon Department of Energy should warrant some discussion about energy (Goal 13). I am confident, based on the discussion of these activities throughout the DPO as well as the discussion of the other Statewide Planning Goals, that Department staff should be able to address these four Statewide Planning Goals.
- **Scenic Bikeways:** On page 452 within Table R-1: Important Recreation Opportunities, the counties where the Grand Tour Scenic Bikeway and the Blue Mountain Scenic Bikeway are identified have been transposed.
- **Traffic Safety:** Starting on page 484 line 15 is the discussion of Traffic Safety. Morrow County would like to request that as part of Public Services Condition 1(b)(iii) a requirement for the applicant to include as part of their submittal Geographic Information System (GIS) shape files also be submitted to facilitate permit processing within the various review departments of Morrow County. This request could also be incorporated into Land Use Condition 1(a) or Land Use Condition 2.
- **Fire Protection:** The discussion of Fire Protection starts on page 504 line 7 and continues to page 511 line 29. Two comments follow concerned with the discussion of fire protection.
  - The listing of fire departments found in Table PS-9 on pages 505 and 506 does not list the Heppner Rural Fire Protection District, however a portion of the proposed route does travel through their service territory.
  - Morrow County is concerned that this section, as well as the earlier section addressing forest practices, identifies fire protection and prevention concerns with a focus on forest land. Much of the proposed transmission line route in Morrow County, while not in forested areas, is still remote with a high risk for fire impacts. The distance from main fire stations within Heppner or Boardman could still require a significant period of time for either fire or emergency response to arrive on scene of an incident. The discussion should be broader to address this limited response time regardless of the vegetation in the area of construction. Morrow County would request that Conditions requiring the staging of fire response be applied to also address remote areas more generally.
- **Waste Minimization:** The Waste Minimization discussion begins on page 514 line 18 addressing most of the usual Morrow County concerns and incorporating our Solid Waste Ordinance provisions. We would like to add that any recycling that is accomplished by the applicant or contractors as part of the construction also report those recycling efforts in such a way as to

benefit the Morrow County watershed, a Department of Environmental Quality reporting requirement. This could be added to Waste Minimization Condition 1.

- Noxious Weed Plan: During review of the Noxious Weed Plan, Attachment P1-5 of the Draft Proposed Order, it was identified that several weeds which are present in Morrow County are identified as not being present. They are Cereal Rye, Ventenata, and Plumeless Thistle.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line project. The economic impact of the construction and the improvement to the delivery and movement of bulk power in the inland northwest will both be positive impacts to Morrow County. The Conditions that are proposed to be within the Final Order and Site Certificate hold the development accountable to potential impacts, balancing the project benefits with the impacts of a development of this scale.

Should you have any questions about this comment letter, or need further information, please contact me at 541-922-4624 or by email at [cmclane@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:cmclane@co.morrow.or.us).

Cordially,



Carla McLane  
Planning Director

cc: Morrow County Board of Commissioners  
Matt Scrivner and Sandra Pointer, Morrow County Public Works Director  
Dave Pranger, Morrow County Weed Coordinator/Inspector  
Jeff Maffuccio, Idaho Power Company  
Steve Rhea and Rusty Estes, Heppner Fire District  
Marc Rogelstad and Marty Broadbent, Boardman Rural Fire Protection District  
Sheryll Bates, Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group

## TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE

---

**From:** Robert Waldher <robert.waldher@umatillacounty.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:39 AM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Cc:** WOODS Maxwell \* ODOE; Doug Olsen  
**Subject:** Umatilla County Comments on B2H DPO  
**Attachments:** Umatilla County\_DPO Comments\_08-22-2019.pdf

Hello Kellen -

Please see the attached comment letter (dated for tomorrow) submitted on behalf of the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners for the Boardman to Hemingway Draft Proposed Order. You may contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you!

Kind Regards -

Bob

--

**Bob Waldher**, RLA

***Director***

Umatilla County Department of Land Use Planning

216 SE 4th ST | Pendleton, OR 97801

Phone: [541-278-6251](tel:541-278-6251) | Fax: [541-278-5480](tel:541-278-5480)

<http://www.umatillacounty.net/planning> - Visit our website for copies of planning documents, permit applications and other helpful information.

*Please Be Aware* - Documents such as emails, letters, maps, reports, etc. sent from or received by the Umatilla County Department of Land Use Planning are subject to Oregon Public Records law and are NOT CONFIDENTIAL. All such documents are available to the public upon request; costs for copies may be collected. This includes materials that may contain sensitive data or other information, and Umatilla County will not be held liable for its distribution.



# Umatilla County

Board of County Commissioners

---



## Commissioners

August 22, 2019

**George L. Murdock**  
541-278-6202

**John Shafer**  
541-278-6203

**William J. Elfering**  
541-278-6201

Kellen Tardaewether  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St N.E., 1st Floor  
Salem, OR 97301

---

Executive Secretary  
Melinda Slatt  
541-278-6204

County Counsel  
Douglas Olsen  
541-278-6208

Chief Financial  
Officer  
Robert Pahl  
541-278-6209

## **RE: Umatilla County Comments on Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order**

Umatilla County has reviewed the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) for the proposed Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) Transmission Line project. Please include the following comments in the project record for consideration by the Energy Facilities Siting Council (EFSC).

**Page 125, Table LU-2** –The applicable substantive criteria for transmission lines in the Exclusive Farm Use zone is a Land Use Decision, not an outright permitted use as shown in the table.

**Page 126, Line 27** –Utility Facility Necessary in the Exclusive Farm Use zone is a Land Use Decision, not an outright permitted use.

**Page 143, Lines 33-40** – Umatilla County Development Code Section 152.612(D) outlines procedures for taking action on a Conditional Use or Land Use Decision and requires *an applicant granted a Conditional Use Permit or Land Use Decision to obtain a County Zoning Permit for EACH tax lot before establishing the approved use and/or commencing construction*. Umatilla County requests that Land Use Condition #3 be rewritten to require the applicant to obtain a County Zoning permit for EACH tax lot crossed by the proposed transmission line or multi-use area.

**Page 143, Lines 41-42** – Umatilla County requests the applicant obtain a separate Access Permit for each approach from private property to/from a County public roadway, and a separate Utility Permit for each County roadway impacted by a utility crossing. Access and Utility Permits shall be obtained from Umatilla County Public Works.

**Page 143, Line 43** – Umatilla County requests the applicant obtain a separate Floodplain Development permit for each individual location where development is proposed to occur within a regulatory floodplain.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DPO. Please direct any follow-up questions or comments to Robert Waldher, County Planning Director. He can be reached by phone at 541-278-6251 or by email at [robert.waldher@umatillacounty.net](mailto:robert.waldher@umatillacounty.net).

Respectfully,



George Murdock  
Board Chair



Cc: Umatilla County Planning Department

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Scott Hartell <shartell@union-county.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 10, 2019 7:47 AM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Subject:** DPO Corrections

Kellen,

Just a quick note on some changes you may want to make in the B2H DPO:

Page 147, Line 9: 2 Multi Use Areas in EFU Zone (MUA UN-03 and MUA UN-04) 1 Multi Use Area in Timber Grazing Zone (MUA UN-02).

Page 147, Line 26: Change Umatilla County to Union County.

Have a great day.

**Scott Hartell**  
**Union County Planning Director**  
**1001 4<sup>th</sup> St. Suite C**  
**La Grande, OR 97850**  
**(541) 963-1014**

**TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Scott Hartell <shartell@union-county.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:10 AM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Union County B2H DPO Comments  
**Attachments:** doc00675220190821100117.pdf

Kellen,

Please see attached and I will also send snail mail if needed.

**Scott Hartell**  
**Union County Planning Director**  
**1001 4<sup>th</sup> St. Suite C**  
**La Grande, OR 97850**  
**(541) 963-1014**



# UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Donna Beverage, Commissioner  
R. Matthew Scarfo, Commissioner  
Paul Anderes, Commissioner

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer

1106 K Avenue La Grande, OR 97850

PHONE (541)963-1001 FAX (541)963-1079

August 21, 2019

Oregon Department of Energy  
Attn: Kellen Tardaewether  
Senior Siting Analyst  
550 Capitol St. NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Union County Comments to the Boardman to Hemmingway 500kv Transmission Line,  
Draft Proposed Order.

Dear Mrs. Tardaewether:

Union County believes that no portion of the B2H Project should be sited within Union County. However, to address the possibility that the Energy Facility Siting Council approves the B2H Project despite Union County's objections, the following should be included in the Final Order for review of Site Certificate.

1. Conflict Resolution

Idaho Power Company is taking the direction of gaining Site Certificate approval by addressing a majority of the standards and criteria that would be applicable to all five counties in Oregon and then recommending as approval conditions to conduct specific plans, like transportation routing, at a later date once Idaho Power Company selects a contractor to construct the B2H Project. Union County is not opposed to this tactic as it allows building a relationship between Union County and the Site Certificate holder and contractor impacting our county. However, Union County is concerned the Draft Proposed Order does not identify a clear path for conflict resolution between the county and Site Certificate holder/contractor if agreement is not reached in plan development with the local jurisdiction. Currently, the Draft Proposed Order only identifies developing the specific plan and turning it into the Oregon Department of Energy staff to satisfy the approval condition. Therefore, Union County is recommending the following for Oregon Department of Energy staff consideration:

**Union County Request #1:**

Oregon Department of Energy staff needs to clearly identify a process for conflict resolution between Union County and the Site Certificate holder or Site Certificate Holder's contractor for all approval conditions requiring plan development after Site Certificate approval is granted and prior to construction activities commencing in Union County. This shall be included in the language of the Site Certificate if approved.

2. Wildland Fire Danger

Union County is comprised of terrain that can be challenging to reach by emergency vehicles and during the summer months is usually under a high industrial fire precaution level. Since the building of a new 500kv high voltage transmission line in Union County is not a normal activity or occurrence, we feel there could be a greater potential for wildland fires because of the increased construction activity level in our County.

**Union County Request #2:**

During construction activities of the B2H Project in Union County, the Site Certificate holder will contract with a local Union County Wildlands Firefighting contractor, qualified by the Oregon Department of Forestry or the USDA Forest Service and have a Type 6 or Type 4 engine and crew on site at construction locations during all construction activities outside of multiuse areas.

3. Contact Information

**Union County Request #3**

During construction activities of the B2H Project the Site Certificate Holder and Site Certificate Holder's contractor(s) shall provide emergency contact information to the following: (Emergency contact information shall include individual's name, company individual works for, position individual holds within that company, phone number and business address).

Union County Sheriff's Office and Dispatch  
Union County Emergency Services Office  
Union County Public Works Department  
City of La Grande Police Department  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
USDA Forest Service, La Grande Ranger Station  
Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center

4. Transmission Line Route

**Union County Request #4**

Union County requests Idaho Power Company or the Site Certificate Holder to use the Alternative Route identified in the application for Site Certificate of the B2H Project.

5. Transportation Routes

Based upon a review of maps supplied by Idaho Power Company (IPC), the following gravel roads will be impacted during construction of the B2H power line: Jimmy Creek, Olsen, Heber, Bushnell, Marvin, Hawthorne, Rock Creek and Dark Canyon. Depending on how the power line is constructed, and the types of construction equipment used, these roads will need additional maintenance before, during and post construction, including



blading, watering, rolling, additional  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 0 gravel, and dust abatement in front of residents' homes. Union County Public Works Department will inspect each road before, during, and post construction, to evaluate the condition of the roads.

In addition to the roads listed, two additional gravel roads requiring special accommodation will be impacted during construction of the B2H power line: Morgan Lake Road and Glass Hill Road. Morgan Lake Road is a narrow gravel road two miles long, with a very steep grade (15% - 18%), that serves residents, cattle ranches, and access to Morgan Lake. Depending on the types of construction equipment that will use this road, maintenance will be needed, as mentioned above. Again, this road is very narrow and given the volume of traffic (400 ADT or greater during summer months) guard rails should be installed the full length of the road, and the road must be widened to accommodate two lanes of traffic. If guard rail modifications and widening cannot be completed, IPC should not use Morgan Lake Road and instead look for other alternatives to access the power line during construction.

Glass Hill Road is a gravel road and will need additional maintenance during construction as outlined above. In addition, at approximately mile post 1, from Morgan Lake Road, there is an active slide. IPC will be required during construction to monitor the slide and if movement occurs, the contractor will be required to clean culverts and ditches, install retaining walls, and remove any excess material to reduce the further movement of the road to ensure safe passage for residents and construction equipment.

Paved roads that will be used for construction are Foothill Road and Old Oregon Trail Road. According to Union County Public Works pavement management system, Foothill Road is in fair condition. If substantial damage occurs during construction, IPC and/or its contractor will return the road to the same condition. Union County Public Works will review the road before, during and after construction to evaluate damage to the existing road.

Old Oregon Trail Road is paved but in poor condition. If this road is used as a haul route for construction materials, IPC and/or its contractor will fix any further damage to the paved road. Union County Public Works will review the road before, during and after construction to evaluate damage to the existing road.

The total number of road approaches equals approximately 22. Each road approach will require a Work in Right of Way Permit. IPC's contractor can obtain these permits at the Union County Public Works office. Each permit will be evaluated by Union County Public Works to determine if culverts are needed, and approve location of the approach.

In summary, all roads that will be used to construct the B2H power line are farm to market roads and do not experience this type of construction traffic. Union County will require IPC to review the condition of the roads with Union County Public Works Director to develop a maintenance and safety plan that will keep Union County roads in current or better condition.

## 6. Noxious Weed Plan

The Union County has concerns regarding the repeated use of language within the Idaho Power Company's application for Site Certificate and in the Draft Proposed Order stating:

*“IPC is not responsible for ...controlling or eradicating noxious weed species that were present prior to the Project”* throughout the B2H Noxious Weed Plan, attachment P1-5 of the DPO. This statement is contradictory to the Oregon Weed Law identified in ORS 569.390: *“Each person, firm or corporation owning or occupying land within the district shall destroy or prevent the seeding on such land of any noxious weed”*. It is also very important to utilize a contractor with extensive knowledge of the local weeds we deal with in Union County and best methods for control.

**Union County Request #5:**

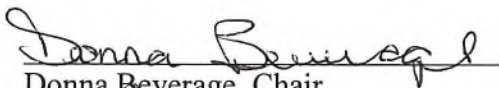
Union County requires a \$500,000 bond from IPC to pay for noxious weed control costs in the event that adequate weed control is not conducted by Idaho Power Company at any point over the initial 20 years of construction and operation of the B2H project (as determined by the county weed supervisor). This bond will help offset costs if the county must go through the enforcement process and contract the noxious weed treatments themselves. The bond amount is based on estimated contractor control costs for the roughly 3,500 acres of disturbed ground and Site Boundary areas along with 55 miles of disturbed/ new roads that will be within Union County.

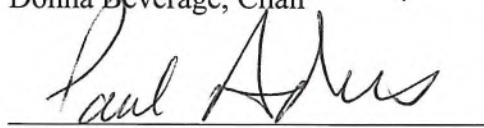
**Union County Request #6:**

During construction activities of the B2H Project in Union County, the Site Certificate holder will contract with a local North East Oregon noxious weed control operator, licensed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture for noxious weed control activities. After construction activities and for the life of the transmission line Oregon Revised Statute 569.390 will be used for the control of noxious weeds in Union County for all lands.

Union County Commissioners request the Oregon Department of Energy staff take these six issues under serious consideration and include them in the Final Order. If you have any questions please contact Scott Hartell, Union County Planning Director, at 541-931-1014.

Sincerely,

  
Donna Beverage, Chair

  
Paul Anderes, Commissioner

  
Matt Scarfo, Commissioner

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Eric Evans <Eric.Evans@malheurco.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 7:14 AM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Malheur County SAG Comments  
**Attachments:** B2H Comments - Malheur County.pdf

Kellen,

Please see the attached comments from Malheur County.

Thank you,

Eric Evans, REHS  
Planning Director  
Malheur County Planning & Zoning  
251 B Street W #12  
Vale, OR 97918  
541-473-5185 – phone  
541-473-5140 – fax



# **MALHEUR COUNTY** PLANNING DEPARTMENT

251 B Street West, #12 Vale, Oregon 97918 Phone (541)473-5185 Fax (541)473-5140

August 21, 2019

Oregon Department of Energy  
Attn: Kellen Tardaewether  
Senior Siting Analyst  
550 Capital Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Malheur County Comments to the Boardman to Hemmingway (B2H) Transmission Line DPO

Ms. Tardaewether,

The Malheur County Special Advisory Group (SAG), represented by the Malheur County Court, has authorized the Malheur County Planning Director to prepare and deliver this letter as comment to the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) for the Boardman to Hemmingway Transmission Line.

The Malheur County Planning Director has reviewed the DPO for the proposed transmission line. Please include the following comments in the project record for consideration by the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC).

- I. Page 35, Line 22 discusses the prevention and suppression of wildfires in eastern Oregon, designating the task to BLM, USFS, and local fire districts and agencies. The majority of B2H is not located in a local fire district (see Attachment 1) in Malheur County. Instead, the wildfire suppression would be performed by BLM with the cooperation of the designated Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPA) (see Attachments 2 & 3). Malheur County would like to see a Condition of Approval which would direct the Applicant to coordinate with the local RFPA's for wildfire prevention and suppression.
- II. Page 187, Line 2 indicates that development will occur on lands zoned RI (Rural Industrial). Rural Industrial is not a land zoning designation in Malheur County. Our analysis of the transmission line shows development on land designated C-I2 (formerly M-3 Heavy Industrial). Table LU-7 should be updated to include the requirements of Malheur County Code 6-3I. Also, Findings of Fact should be adopted by the Council to address the Performance Standards located in 6-3I-4.
- III. Page 187, Line 22 starts the discussion requiring a Floodplain Development Permit for Malheur County. The verbiage of this paragraph indicates that a single permit will cover the entire 75-mile route through the County. A Floodplain Development Permit will be required for each location where development will occur within a regulatory floodplain.

- IV. Page 187, Line 35 discusses the required setbacks from property lines. Malheur County Code 6-3A-6 requires a 15-foot setback from property lines, not the 25 feet stated in the DPO. The increased setback could cause additional encroachment harm to farmers, mostly in Exclusive Farm Use.
- V. Separate zoning permits will be required for the resource lands (EFU and ERU) and the Industrial lands in order to separately evaluate the zoning requirements for a total of two zoning permits.

Malheur County appreciates the opportunity to comment. Malheur County recognizes the positive financial impacts this project will produce within the County. These comments and recommended changes will balance the project's benefits with the impacts to the citizens of Malheur County.

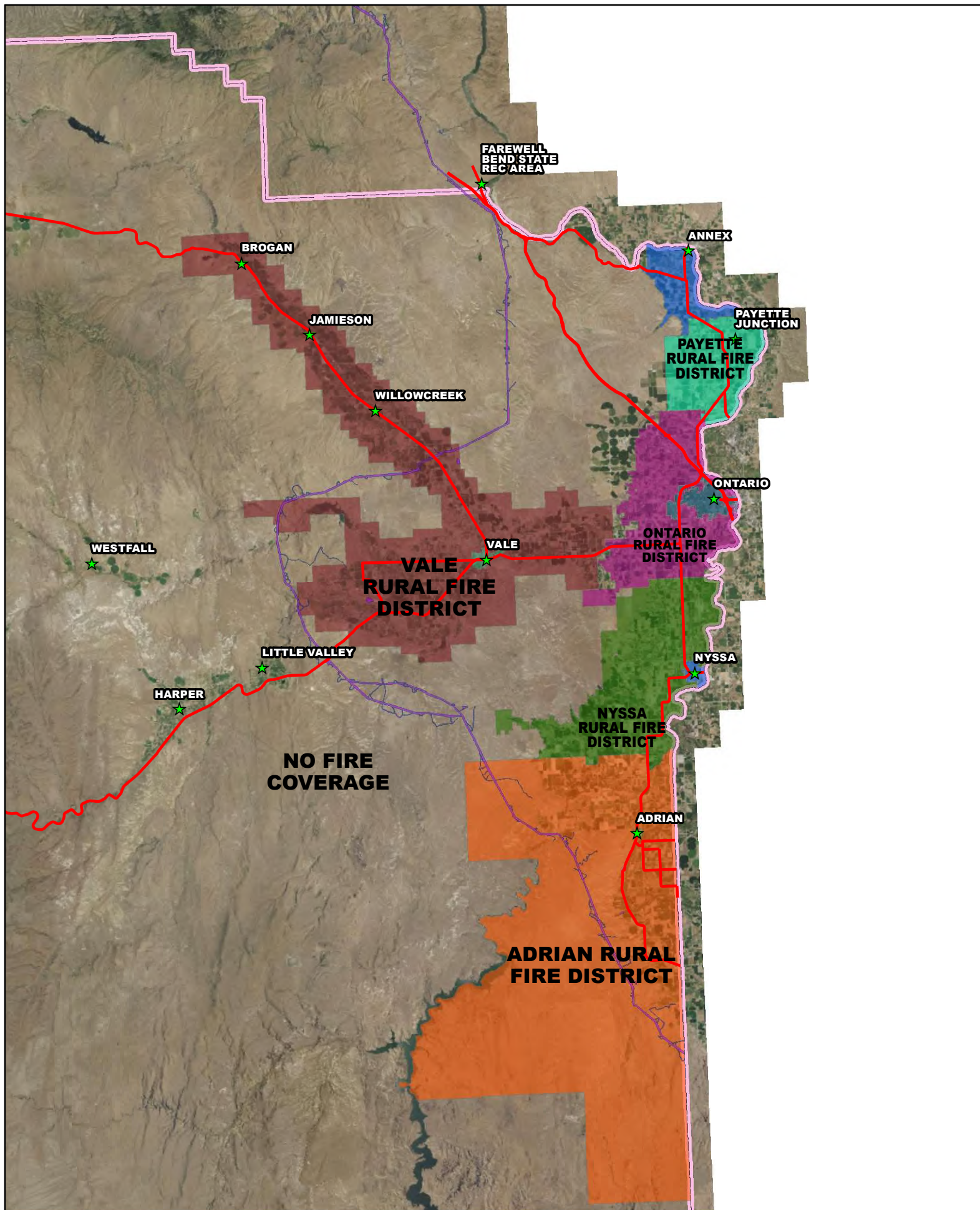
Should you have any questions, or need further information, please contact me using the information below.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Evans', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Eric Evans, REHS  
Malheur County  
Planning Director  
251 B Street W #12  
Vale, Oregon 97918  
[Eric.Evans@malheurco.org](mailto:Eric.Evans@malheurco.org)  
541-473-5185







# Vale RFPA

Est. 2008

**Chairman:**

Toby McBride  
541-881-6141

**Secretary:**

Bobby McElroy  
541-473-3500  
barthorses@gmail.com

**Directors:**

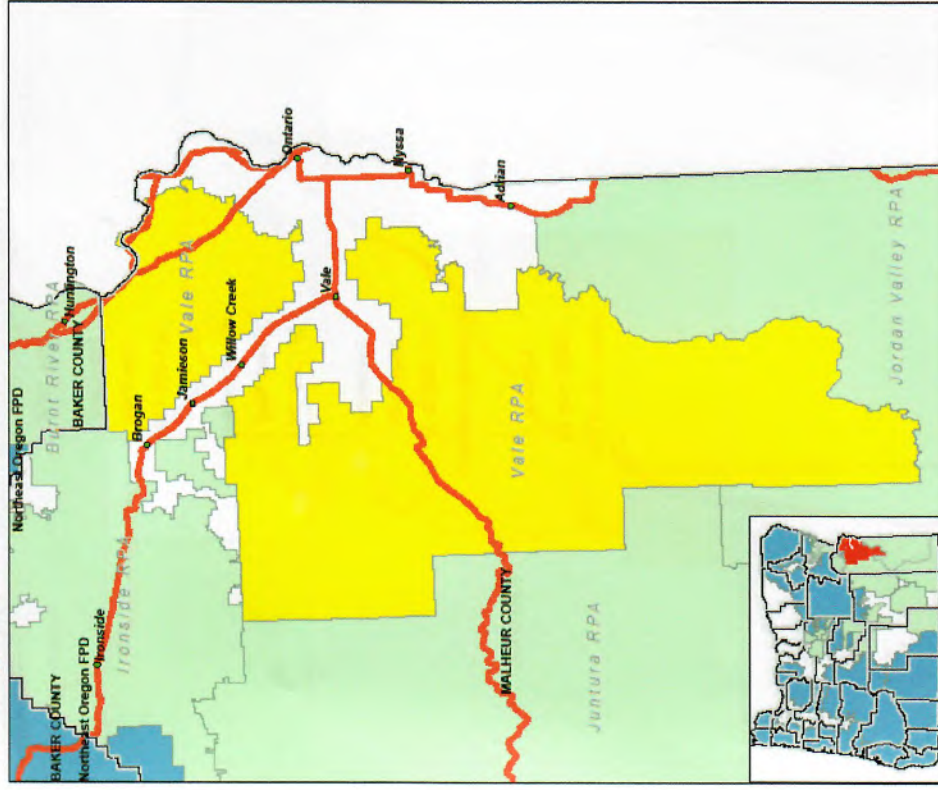
Mark McBride  
541-709-1367

Jeff Romans  
541-358-2905

Jerold Holloway  
541-473-4014

Address:  
3760 Stage Rd  
Vale, OR 97918

## Exhibit A; Vale Rangeland Fire Protection Association



Prepared by: Gordon Foster  
Date: August 16, 2016

Oregon Department of Forestry  
Eastern Oregon Area  
Rangeland Fire Program

Jordan Valley, OR 97910

[illegible]

Oregon Department of Forestry  
Eastern Oregon Area  
Rangeland Fire Program



# Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) Stephen Clements

Mailing Address (mandatory) 1000 Adams Ave  
La Grande, OR 97850

Phone Number (optional) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address (optional) mayor@cityoflagrande.org

Today's Date: 6/20/19

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

## Written Testimony

(Please print legibly – Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p>1 didn't BPA pull out? It's not in their budget; right?</p> <p>2 The third partner pulled out. Why did they?</p> <p>3 They already cancelled the big power line, or a small</p> <p>4 power line they were planning from Portland north into</p> <p>5 Washington; right? They cancelled that one. Now they</p> <p>6 pulled out, at least according to their budget, B2H</p> <p>7 isn't in their budget anymore.</p> <p>8 Anyway, we're not getting good information</p> <p>9 from Idaho Power. You're not getting good information</p> <p>10 from Idaho Power. Don't rubber stamp this thing. Don't</p> <p>11 check it off the box. Went to La Grande, went to</p> <p>12 Pendleton; rubber stamp, build the line. Don't do it,</p> <p>13 please. Don't do it. This is your chance. You have</p> <p>14 the power to help Oregon.</p> <p>15 Thank you for listening.</p> <p>16 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you.</p> <p>17 MR. STEVEN CLEMENTS: It's kind of hard to</p> <p>18 come up here after that. Thank you, Pete.</p> <p>19 My name is Steve Clements. I'm the mayor of</p> <p>20 La Grande. My address is 1000 Adams Avenue.</p> <p>21 Before I start to speak, I want to thank all</p> <p>22 the people that came up here and spoke this evening.</p> <p>23 I'm particularly impressed by the background that they</p> <p>24 have, the work that they have done. They are to be</p> <p>25 commended for all the time that they've put in. It's</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p>1 process.</p> <p>2 The La Grande City Council has been clear in</p> <p>3 its opposition to the project beginning with its first</p> <p>4 correspondence with ODOE in August of 2017 and again</p> <p>5 this past April in a proclamation that it made opposing</p> <p>6 the line. The City has also been consistent with its</p> <p>7 request that EFSC include mitigation to address the</p> <p>8 City's concerns if the project is approved.</p> <p>9 We very much appreciate the inclusion of our</p> <p>10 staff's recommended conditions related to transportation</p> <p>11 and the impacts to Morgan Lake in the draft proposed</p> <p>12 order. We are hopeful that the transportation and</p> <p>13 conditions resolve the concerns raised by the City and</p> <p>14 Union County throughout the process.</p> <p>15 Of the two routes identified in the</p> <p>16 application, the applicant has selected Mill Creek, the</p> <p>17 most impactful to La Grande. It will be visible up here</p> <p>18 on our end of the valley as the proposed route.</p> <p>19 And the Morgan Lake, which also impacts City</p> <p>20 property because that entire Morgan Lake Park belongs to</p> <p>21 the City of La Grande. We have spent a lot of money up</p> <p>22 there keeping it and improving it as a recreational</p> <p>23 opportunity for people in this county. That is the</p> <p>24 alternative route.</p> <p>25 And I cannot say this more emphatically: We</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p>1 amazing. What I know about this project comes to about</p> <p>2 this much relative to what they know (indicating).</p> <p>3 Anyway, thank you for the opportunity to</p> <p>4 present this evening. The La Grande City Council, which</p> <p>5 represents more than 13,000 people who will be</p> <p>6 negatively affected by this transmission line, has</p> <p>7 provided comments through staff, through our city staff</p> <p>8 at each of the steps in the process; so you have some of</p> <p>9 our input already.</p> <p>10 I will reiterate some of that and add to it.</p> <p>11 In 2019 and '17, the La Grande City Council, in</p> <p>12 partnership with the Union County Commissioners,</p> <p>13 conducted two public meetings in this very room to hear</p> <p>14 from residents regarding the project in conjunction with</p> <p>15 the amended preliminary applications. Public sentiment</p> <p>16 expressed at those meetings overwhelmingly opposed the</p> <p>17 transmission line. You are hearing some of that this</p> <p>18 evening.</p> <p>19 The bases for that opposition included, but</p> <p>20 was not limited to, reduced property values to homes</p> <p>21 along the proposed route; viewshed impacts throughout</p> <p>22 the area; environmental impacts both during construction</p> <p>23 and when the transmission line is operational; impacts</p> <p>24 to recreational facilities such as Morgan Lake; and a</p> <p>25 lack of public notice and involvement throughout the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p>1 oppose, the City of La Grande opposes both of those</p> <p>2 routes. And while I realize that the BLM-preferred</p> <p>3 route is outside of your consideration, and I appreciate</p> <p>4 what you gave us as guidelines before, the City Council</p> <p>5 is very concerned about the decision by the applicant</p> <p>6 not to submit the route which has lower social and</p> <p>7 environmental impacts than the two identified routes. I</p> <p>8 cannot understand why that route was not put in there,</p> <p>9 personally.</p> <p>10 For the proposed route, we ask that a</p> <p>11 condition be included to require H-frames. We are</p> <p>12 talking about mitigation. Now, these are requests that</p> <p>13 we put forward. This is going to be somewhat different</p> <p>14 than what you and I agreed to.</p> <p>15 But for the proposed route we ask that a</p> <p>16 condition be included, so that's the one up here, to</p> <p>17 require H-frames with a tower height no greater than 130</p> <p>18 feet, with weathered steel between milepost 106/2 and</p> <p>19 milepost 108/5. Idaho Power has indicated that they</p> <p>20 agree to this level of mitigation.</p> <p>21 For the Morgan Lake alternative, the draft</p> <p>22 proposed order includes requirements for these same</p> <p>23 H-frames between miles 5-7 of Morgan Lake as a</p> <p>24 recommended condition. The City of La Grande would like</p> <p>25 to express that as an alternative, the City would accept</p>

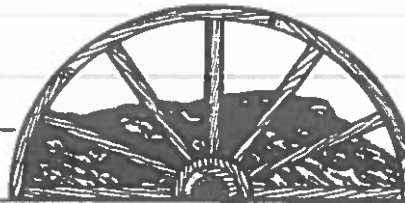
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p>1 \$100,000 in funding for improvements to Morgan Lake to 2 mitigate the impacts on recreation should the Morgan 3 Lake alternative be constructed. Idaho Power has agreed 4 to this condition as well.</p> <p>5 I want to say this again: Please do not 6 interpret the City's willingness to agree to 7 mitigations, that I just meant it as support or 8 acceptance of the project. We remain firmly opposed, 9 firmly opposed to the project for the reasons identified 10 in our 2017 comments of the preliminary application.</p> <p>11 We respectfully ask that EFSC require the 12 mitigation we are seeking in the final order if the 13 project is approved. And while I have only a modicum of 14 the compassion as Peter Barry, just say no.</p> <p>15 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Next, we have 16 Mr. Larkin followed by Sheri Kanig.</p> <p>17 MR. GREG LARKIN: Good evening. My name is 18 Greg Larkin. I reside at 59655 Morgan Lake Road. I 19 live on the top of Morgan Lake Road directly across from 20 the entrance into Morgan Lake.</p> <p>21 The Morgan Lake alternative route of the Idaho 22 Power transmission line would be located approximately 23 120 yards from my residence. I'm in the process of 24 developing my second approved home site on this 25 property, which would be even in a closer location of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p>1 the wind patterns to different velocities of wind to 2 seek some relief from this, and I've been able to create 3 this type of environment here.</p> <p>4 Now, the facts of this B2H coming through my 5 property, without it being there, can almost put a 6 person a little over the top that way. It affects me 7 every second of every day. It's a 100-pound drill 8 lodged in their back, to characterize it.</p> <p>9 If this transmission line were to go through 10 at this location, I would no longer be able to reside or 11 fulfill my lifetime dreams and goal of living here. And 12 I don't have the time nor the resources or anything else 13 to seek the relief I've sought or the little bit of 14 tranquility to deal with this issue. Well, I will leave 15 it at this, and then I'll address some more issues.</p> <p>16 As far as pertaining to the sound, the static 17 hiss of this line for the peace and tranquility of our 18 lake up there. We have a gas line that goes through, 19 this line and this route will cross this gas line twice. 20 If we have heavy fogs or a rainstorm, that can transmit 21 a spark to the ground and create a fire, the electronic 22 field.</p> <p>23 Again, I'll repeat myself. The health hazards 24 of this to people in this close of proximity. And the 25 deterioration, even in the ground, the potential</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p>1 this transmission line in proximity to it.</p> <p>2 I spent many years as a locomotive engineer 3 for the Union Pacific Railroad. I suffered a permanent 4 disability of hearing loss and tinnitus that forced me 5 away from this career.</p> <p>6 I can read you a screenshot from Wikipedia on 7 tinnitus: "Tinnitus is the hearing of sound with no 8 external sound present. While often described as a 9 ringing, it may also sound like a clicking, hiss or 10 roaring. Rarely, unclear voices or music are heard. 11 The sound may be soft or loud, low pitched or high 12 pitched and appear to be coming from one ear or both. 13 Most of the time, it comes on gradually. In some 14 people, the sound causes depression or anxiety and can 15 interfere with concentration."</p> <p>16 I am real bad in the last 3 years. When I 17 left the railroad in '87, I had a testing in 1985, my 18 ears rang at that time 57 decibels. Approximately 19 10 years ago, one ear was at 72 decibels, the other one 20 was at 75 decibels.</p> <p>21 Now, I have great concerns, and I've been 22 around the transmission lines before where I cannot 23 stand them, and if this is this close to my home. And 24 then to cope with it up there, or to tolerate it, I've 25 done a lot of pruning and thinning of the trees to get</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p>1 deterioration in the ground of this gas pipeline. The 2 technology, I don't know, as it goes over, through this 3 route. It had to. There is no longer a route that was 4 the western route that was on the radar and it's 5 disappeared, it's gone away. And viably the effect on 6 our county here, if that route were to go through in 7 that direction, it would most likely have no less impact 8 on our county here, to the residents.</p> <p>9 I'm not a public speaker. I'll address it 10 further in some written comments. I'll have some 11 assistance on that.</p> <p>12 I thank you for your time.</p> <p>13 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you.</p> <p>14 We have Sheri Kanig, and following we will 15 hear from William Whitaker.</p> <p>16 MS. SHERI KANIG: Good afternoon or evening, 17 everyone. My name is Sheri Kanig, and I reside at 331 18 Southwest Street in Yreka, California. That is located 19 in the Klamath National Forest in Siskiyou County, 20 northern California. I am not a resident of La Grande 21 but a volunteer and a tourist.</p> <p>22 I have been a co-owner of a large logging 23 company in the Klamath National Forest for many years 24 and also participated in fire suppression. I guess my 25 issues today are regarding the fire danger because of</p>



20  
140

10

CITY OF



LA GRANDE

THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

P.O. BOX 670

LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850

Phone (541) 962-1309 FAX (541) 963-3333

*Good evening,* I am Steve Clements, Mayor of La Grande

Thank you for the opportunity to present this evening. The La Grande City Council, which represents the more than 13,000 residents who <sup>live close</sup> are in closest proximity to B2H, has provided <sup>thru City Staff</sup> previous comments at each step in the process. In the interest of time, I will be brief. *who will be negatively affected by B2H*

*in 2017*  
*opposed*  
*is* The La Grande City Council, in partnership with the Union County Commissioners, conducted two public meetings to <sup>hear from</sup> listen to comments from residents regarding this project as <sup>in conjunction with</sup> part of the review of the Amended Preliminary Application *in 2017*. The public sentiment expressed at those meetings was overwhelming *in opposition to the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line*. The basis for that opposition included, but was not limited to reduced property values to homes along the proposed route; view shed impacts throughout the area; environmental impacts both during construction and when the transmission line becomes operational; impacts to recreational facilities such as Morgan Lake; and a lack of public notice and involvement throughout the process. Of particular concern to the City Council *was the decision by the applicant not to submit the BLM preferred route as the proposed route, or at the very least an alternative for consideration for Site Certification.*

The La Grande City Council has been clear in <sup>its</sup> the City's opposition to the project beginning with <sup>its</sup> our first correspondence with ODOE in August of 2017. The City has also been consistent with <sup>EFSC</sup> our request that the Council include mitigation to address the City's concerns if the project is ultimately approved. We very much appreciate the inclusion of staff recommended conditions related to transportation and the impacts to Morgan Lake in the Draft Proposed Order. We are hopeful that the transportation <sup>related</sup> conditions resolve the concerns raised by the City of La Grande and Union County throughout the process.

*have*  
*EFSC*  
*EFSC*  
*that it*  
As we stated previously to the Council, of the two routes identified in the application, the applicant selected Mill Creek, the one most impactful to the City of La Grande, as <sup>it</sup> their Proposed Route. We would ask first that the Council not approve the project, but if the Council does approve the project, we ask the <sup>EFSC</sup> Council to <sup>remove it</sup> remove the Proposed Route from the application and retain only the Morgan Lake Alternative. *that it*

*For the*  
*be removed*  
*the*  
If the Proposed Route is <sup>not removed</sup> removed, we would ask that a condition be included to require H-frames with a tower height no greater than 130 feet, with weathered steel (or an equivalent coating) between Milepost 106/2 and Milepost 108/5. Idaho Power has indicated that they would agree to this level of mitigation.

*For*  
In regard to the Morgan Lake Alternative, the Draft Proposed Order includes requirements for these same H-frames between miles 5-7 of the Morgan Lake alternative as a recommended condition. The City of La Grande would like to express that as an alternative, the City could accept \$100,000 in funding for improvements to Morgan Lake to mitigate the impacts on recreation should the Morgan Lake Alternative be constructed. Idaho Power has agreed to this as well.

Please do not interpret the City's willingness to agree to the mitigation I just mentioned as support for or acceptance of the project itself. We <sup>firmly</sup> still firmly oppose the project for the reasons identified in <sup>the</sup> our 2017 review of the Preliminary Application <sup>that I mentioned at the beginning of my remarks</sup>. We respectfully ask the Council to require the mitigation we are seeking in the final order if the project is approved.

EFSC

of the two routes identified in the application, the applicant has selected Mill Creek, the most impactful to La Grande, as the Proposed Route, and Morgen Lake as the Alternative. First and emphatically, the City opposed both those routes. And while I realize the BLM ~~Alternative~~ Preferred route is outside consideration, the City Council is very concerned about the decision by the applicant not to submit this route which had the <sup>lower</sup> ~~best~~ social & environmental impacts than the two identified routes.

## TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE

---

**From:** Robert Strobe <RStrobe@cityoflagrande.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 1:53 PM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Cc:** Energy Siting \* ODOE  
**Subject:** B2H Draft Proposed Order Comments  
**Attachments:** 20190822134939797.pdf

Kellen,

Attached is the City of La Grande's comments regarding the B2H project. We are mailing the original as well. Thank you for your consideration.

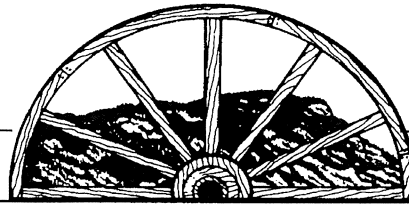
*Robert*

Robert A. Strobe, MPA  
City Manager  
City of La Grande  
[rstroke@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:rstroke@cityoflagrande.org)  
(541) 962-1309  
(541) 963-3333 fax

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** *This transmission is intended only for the use of the individual(s) named as recipients. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential and/or protected from disclosure under applicable law including, but not limited to, the attorney client privilege and/or work product doctrine. If you are not the intended recipient of this transmission, please notify the sender immediately by telephone. Do not deliver, distribute or copy this transmission, disclose its contents, or take any action in reliance on the information it contains.*

---

CITY OF



LA GRANDE

---

THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

---

OFFICE of the CITY MANAGER

P.O. BOX 670

LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850

Phone (541) 962-1309 FAX (541) 963-3333

August 21, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
Attention: Kellen Tardaewether  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: City of La Grande Comments on the Draft Proposed Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Proposed Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project. The City of La Grande renews our objection to the project itself and would ask that the application be denied.

The City also renews the objection to the Proposed Route and requests Idaho Power remove the Proposed Route from their application and instead use the Morgan Lake Alternative **if the project is approved**. As we stated previously, of the two routes identified in the application, the applicant selected the one most impactful to the City of La Grande as the Proposed Route.

Given none of the proposed facilities are located within the City of La Grande's jurisdiction, our comments have been and continue to be limited in scope. Unless otherwise noted in this letter, we renew our previously stated concerns voiced in our past correspondence and Mayor Steve Clements' comments made on behalf of the City during the Public Hearing on June 20, 2019, in La Grande.

As stated in our last letter, the most significant element that concerns the City of La Grande is the potential impact to roads used to access the project. This concern remains and we appreciate the Recommended Public Services Condition 1 shown on page 496 of the Draft Proposed Order. We support requiring the submission of a more detailed Transportation and Traffic Plan and ask that this condition be included in the Proposed and Final Order if the project is approved. Doing so will allow Union County and the City of La Grande to fully evaluate and comment on the impacts that may occur on our roads prior to construction.

Regarding recreational impacts to Morgan Lake Park as discussed on pages 460 to 462 of the Draft Proposed Order, there are references to potential impacts during construction and the fact that a detailed Transportation and Traffic Plan will be provided prior to construction. The City cannot adequately address potential recreational impacts that may occur at the Park until this Plan is submitted and reviewed.

The City of La Grande and Idaho Power entered into the attached Memorandum of Agreement dated August 20, 2019, regarding mitigation related solely to viewshed impacts for both the Proposed Route and the Morgan Lake Alternative in the event the project is approved.

The Agreement requires Idaho Power to utilize H Frames in lieu of lattice structures between Milepost 106/2 and 108/5 if the Proposed Route is constructed to mitigate potential visual impacts.

The Agreement also requires Idaho Power to pay the City of La Grande \$100,000 for recreational improvements if the Morgan Lake Alternative is constructed. These will include improvements to the access road into Morgan Lake Park, the installation of new vault toilets at the campground, new entry gate system, day use improvements, signage, and other recreational enhancements throughout the Park. Based on this, the City is withholding existing or future recommendations that Idaho Power use H-frames near Morgan Lake Park.

Ideally, the City would prefer to have the provisions of the Agreement included in the Proposed and Final Order for the project as conditions, should the project receive approval.

Please feel free to contact me at the number above or via e-mail at [rstroke@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:rstroke@cityoflagrande.org) if I can answer any questions regarding the City's position.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Strobe  
City Manager



**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
REGARDING  
THE BOARDMAN TO HEMINGWAY  
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT  
BY AND BETWEEN**

**IDAHO POWER COMPANY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE**

On this <sup>20<sup>TH</sup></sup> day of August, 2019 (Effective Date), Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power), on behalf of the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project, and the City of La Grande, Oregon (La Grande) (individually, "Party" and collectively, "Parties") hereby enter into this Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (MOA).

**RECITALS**

*Energy Facility Siting Council Proceedings*

WHEREAS, on or about October 3, 2018, Idaho Power submitted to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) a final application for site certificate (Final Application) to construct the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (B2H Project)—a 500-kilovolt transmission line extending approximately 300 miles from the proposed Longhorn Station in Boardman, Oregon to the existing Hemingway Substation in southwestern Idaho.

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2019, ODOE issued a Draft Proposed Order (DPO) on the Final Application, recommending approval of the B2H Project subject to the conditions listed in the DPO.

*Union County Impacts*

WHEREAS, the DPO includes two alternative routes through Union County: (1) the Proposed Route (also referred to as the Mill Creek Alternative); and (2) the Morgan Lake Alternative.

WHEREAS, for the Proposed Route, the DPO includes no mitigation for potential visual impacts to the La Grande viewshed.

WHEREAS, for the Morgan Lake Alternative, the DPO includes the following mitigation for potential visual impacts to the recreational opportunities at Morgan Lake Park:

**Recommended Recreation Condition 1:** If the Morgan Lake alternative facility route is selected, the certificate holder shall construct the facility using tower structures that meet the following criteria for the transmission line that would be visible from Morgan Lake Park, specifically between miles 5-7 of the Morgan Lake alternative, as shown on ASC Exhibit C, Attachment C-3, Map 8.

- a. H-frames;
- b. Tower height no greater than 130 feet; and
- c. Weathered steel (or an equivalent coating).

*The Parties' Responses to the DPO*

WHEREAS, La Grande believes that no portion of the B2H Project should be sited within Union County. However, to address the possibility that the Energy Facility Siting Council approves the B2H Project despite La Grande's objections, La Grande has raised certain concerns about the Proposed Route's potential visual impacts, and about the Morgan Lake Alternative's potential impacts on Morgan Lake Park.

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that both Parties will benefit if, to minimize the Proposed Route's potential visual impacts, the Proposed Route includes H-frame structures—instead of lattice towers—within the viewshed of La Grande.

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that both Parties will benefit if, to mitigate the Morgan Lake Alternative's potential impacts to Morgan Lake Park, the Morgan Lake Alternative provides for recreational improvements at the park instead of H-frame structures.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

**AGREEMENT**

**1. Proposed Route's Potential Visual Impacts**

a. To address the Proposed Route's potential visual impacts within the La Grande viewshed, if the Proposed Route is constructed, Idaho Power shall utilize H-frame structures, in lieu of lattice structures, specifically between Milepost 106/2 and Milepost 108/5.

**2. Morgan Lake Alternative's Potential Impacts to Morgan Lake Park**

a. To address the Morgan Lake Alternative's potential impacts to Morgan Lake Park, if the Morgan Lake Alternative is constructed, Idaho Power shall make payment to La Grande in the amount of one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for recreational improvements to Morgan Lake Park.

- i. Idaho Power shall make the payment at the start of construction of the B2H Project, and only if the Morgan Lake Alternative is constructed.
- ii. The payment set forth in Section 2.a of this MOA is intended to primarily fund recreational improvements at Morgan Lake Park.

b. Idaho Power may request that the mitigation in Section 2.a is included in, or referenced in, the Site Certificate conditions. If Idaho Power chooses not to do so, Idaho Power nonetheless shall make the payment as set forth in Section 2.a.

c. La Grande shall withhold any existing, or future, recommendation that Idaho Power use H-frames near Morgan Lake Park.

**3. Binding Effect and Assignment.** This MOA shall be binding upon, and shall be enforceable by and inure to the benefit of, the Parties and their respective successors and assigns.

**4. Term and Termination.** This MOA shall become effective and remain in effect from the Effective Date until termination of the agreement. This MOA shall terminate the earliest of when: (i) Idaho Power (or its successor or assign) withdraws the application for site certificate; (ii) construction of the B2H Project is completed; or (iii) the site certificate is terminated.

**5. Effect of Termination.** Upon termination of this MOA in its entirety pursuant to Section 4, all obligations of the Parties will terminate.

**6. Severability.** If any term or other provision of this MOA is held to be invalid, illegal or incapable of being enforced by any rule of law, or public policy, such term or provision shall remain in full force and effect to the extent not held invalid or unenforceable, and all other conditions and provisions of this Agreement shall nevertheless remain in full force and effect. Upon such determination that any term or other provision is invalid, illegal or incapable of being enforced, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to modify this MOA so as to effect the original intent of the Parties as closely as possible in a mutually acceptable manner in order that the transactions contemplated hereby be consummated as originally contemplated to the fullest extent possible.

**Idaho Power Company, on behalf of the B2H Project**

Signature: 

Printed Name: Vern Porter

Title: Vice-President, T&D Engineering and Construction

Date: August 19, 2019

**City of La Grande**

Signature: 

Printed Name: Robert Strope, MPA

Title: La Grande City Manager

Date: August 20, 2019

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** BREUNER Nancy <Nancy.Breuner@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 22, 2019 5:31 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Cc:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Subject:** ODEQ B2H comments  
**Attachments:** B2H ASC from ODEQ 07.22.19.docx

Hello Kellen,

Attached are DEQ's comments regarding the Draft Proposed Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line.

Regards, Nancy

DEQ Regional Solutions Liaison  
Northeast/Greater Eastern Regions  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
475 NE Bellevue Dr., Suite 110  
Bend, OR 97701  
Desk: (541) 633-2001  
Cell: (541) 969-6749  
[breuner.nancy@deq.state.or.us](mailto:breuner.nancy@deq.state.or.us)

## MEMORDUM

---

**To:** Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Site Facilities Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy

**From:** Nancy Breuner, Regional Solutions Liaison  
ODEQ, Eastern Region  
475 NE Bellevue Dr., Suite 110  
(541) 633-2001  
Breuner.nancy@deq.state.or.us

**Date:** July 22, 2019

**RE:** ODEQ Comments on the Draft Proposed Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line

---

### General Comments:

I have reviewed the Draft Proposed Order (DPO) for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line and am responding to ODOE's Request for Public Comments dated May 22, 2019. My review is to confirm that the DPO adequately discusses, mentions, addresses and incorporates statutory reference to probable ODEQ permitting needs and regulations, as listed in the attached Table in ODEQ's previous comments, dated November 21, 2018.

### Specific Comments:

The following environmental regulatory concerns need to be addressed in this DPO: Section 401 permitting, post-construction stormwater management plan, possible wastewater permit, un-intentional return of drilling fluids at stream crossings during any Horizontal Directional drilling operations; construction-related fugitive dust and combustion emissions, especially in La Grande's Maintenance Area for PM10; and, soil disturbance that might contain asbestos.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Regards, Nancy Breuner,

Regional Solutions Liaison  
ODEQ, Eastern Region



## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Sarah J Reif <Sarah.J.Reif@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 1:59 PM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE  
**Subject:** B2H Draft Proposed Order - ODFW Comment  
**Attachments:** B2H DPO\_ODFW Comments\_08.22.19.pdf

Kellen,

Attached you will find ODFW's review and comment on the B2H Draft Proposed Order. Let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sarah Reif  
Energy Coordinator, Wildlife Division  
Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, OR 97302  
[sarah.j.reif@state.or.us](mailto:sarah.j.reif@state.or.us)  
Office: 503-947-6082  
Work Cell: 503-991-3587  
Fax: 503-947-6330



# Oregon

Kate Brown., Governor

**Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Wildlife Division

4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE

Salem, OR 97302

(503) 947-6300

FAX: (503) 947-6330

Internet: [www.dfw.state.or.us](http://www.dfw.state.or.us)

August 22, 2019



Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St N.E., 1st Floor  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order

Dear Ms. Tardaewether,

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has reviewed the Draft Proposed Order (issued May 2019) for the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) Transmission Line Project, which was submitted to the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) as an Application for Site Certificate in 2018. It is the policy of the State of Oregon that wildlife shall be managed to prevent serious depletion of any indigenous species and to provide optimum recreational and aesthetic benefits for present and future generations of the citizens of this state. In furtherance of this policy, ODFW reviewed the B2H Draft Proposed Order for its consistency with ODFW applicable statutes and rules and its demonstration of effort to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the project's impacts to fish and wildlife and their habitats.

ODFW has appreciated the high level of coordination with Idaho Power Company (IPC) and Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) on this project since its inception; coordination that was facilitated by the B2H Coordinator position formerly housed in the ODFW field office in La Grande. In general, ODFW found the conditions of the Draft Proposed Order to have addressed many of ODFW's prior concerns and recommendations provided during the Notice of Intent and Application for Site Certificate review phases. Remaining comments and recommendations are provided below.

As stated in our comment letter on the Application for Site Certificate, many of the fish and wildlife conditions in the Draft Proposed Order are provisional at this time, subject to ODOE and ODFW review prior to construction. ODFW understands the need for provisional plans on a project of this scale, and that final surveys, impact assessments, avoidance and minimization measures, and mitigation plans cannot be finalized until the Right-of-Way (ROW) location can be finalized and access obtained. Given the provisional nature of the current ASC, comments and recommendations made by ODFW herein are

subject to change based on the results of final surveys and final plans. Furthermore, ODFW anticipates significant workload for the agency in the pre-construction phase to review finalized plans. ODFW would appreciate a coordinated and sequenced schedule that offers adequate time for review prior to IPC's desired construction start date.

ODFW focused its review on the conditions listed in the Draft Proposed Order. Comments and recommendations are provided in the following table.

Condition Number	ODFW Comment
Fish and Wildlife Condition 1	<p>Revegetation and reclamation serve an important function in minimizing impacts to wildlife habitat. Some habitats that will be impacted by this project, namely sagebrush shrubland and forests, take upwards of 10 to 50 years to recover their pre-disturbance form and function. IPC has offered a robust revegetation plan, however ODFW stands by its previous recommendation that reclamation/revegetation monitoring be performed for longer than 5 years post-construction. ODFW recommends IPC utilize an adaptive monitoring schedule and management plan that can address Project impacts as long as necessary to achieve success criteria.</p> <p>ODFW also finds IPC's proposed reclamation success standards (Table 6) to be low relative to what ODFW has recommended and supported for other projects in similar habitats. Below are the recommendations ODFW made to ODOE for the B2H Notice of Intent and Application for Site Certificate, which we believe are still appropriate:</p> <p>[ODFW recommends the following criteria for reclamation success be included in the Reclamation and Revegetation Plan]:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain percent foliar cover of weed species within reclamation sites at a level equal to or less-than the paired control site. This will reduce the risk of invasive weeds outcompeting favorable vegetation and creating a source population for dispersing weed species.</li> <li>2. Reclamation actions should prioritize establishment of native perennial bunchgrasses. Native, perennial bunchgrasses are our best defense against fire-prone annual grasses that threaten the arid habitats crossed by this project. Maintain <math>\geq 70\%</math> percent foliar cover of native perennial bunchgrasses of the paired control site. The remaining percentage of vegetation can be other</li> </ol>

	<p>desirable vegetation species not present at the control site or functional bare ground.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Reclamation actions in forested and shrub habitats should have appropriate woody species in the plant mix. Woody species should be plugged using appropriate aged plants to ensure the greatest possible revegetation success. Successful revegetation of sagebrush habitats should have at least 15 percent sagebrush foliar cover.</li> <li>4. Maturity of vegetation within paired control sites should be used to determine the reclamation monitoring timeframe. Monitoring should be conducted on a regular 1-2 year interval until vegetation is established in a similar species composition as the paired control site. Monitoring efforts should then be extended to every 5-10 years (depending on habitat vegetation) until the vegetation reaches the same maturity as the paired control site when the Project impact occurred.</li> </ol> <p>The success criteria in Table 6 are particularly deficient for sage-grouse core, low density, and general habitat. The success criteria outline in Table 6 for shrublands is to achieve 50% of the desirable vegetative cover. Restoration of sagebrush habitat should be based on habitat structure, vegetative cover, and amount of annual invasive, which the 50% value does not address nor accomplish. Below are the success criteria ODFW would recommend ODOE use as the standards for restoring sagebrush habitat for the B2H project.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Reclamation actions shall achieve an average bunch grass density greater than or equal to 5 mature plants per square meter across the reclamation site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A native seed mix shall be utilized during initial seedings. If native species establishment is not successful after a several consecutive seeding efforts, a mixed native/non-native seed mix may be consider during subsequent seeding. Consult ODFW for recommended site specific seed mixes.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
--	--

	<p>a. Sagebrush shall be planted within project reclamation areas to adequately replace habitat function and structure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For best results, ODFW requests that the project proponent plant sagebrush plants or drill sagebrush seed. Sagebrush planting should achieve approximately 15% foliar cover of the reclamation site to ensure functional habitat for both sage-grouse and other sagebrush obligate species. This may many year to achieve.</li> </ul> <p>b. Invasive weeds shall be treated in all reclamation sites. Treatment of invasive weeds for purposes of reclamation shall be based in-part on pre-project vegetation surveys or appropriately selected control sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If invasive/noxious annual grasses are determined to be largely absent within the pre-project vegetation survey area, the project proponent shall maintain the percent foliar cover of annual grass species in reclamation areas at less than 10%.</li> <li>• If invasive/noxious annual grasses are determine to be present in pre-project vegetation survey areas, the project proponent shall maintain percent foliar cover of weed species within reclamation areas at a level equal to or less than pre-project conditions.</li> <li>• Intensive weed treatment actions shall be maintained until both the bunch grass density and sagebrush foliar cover success criteria are achieved. Weed treatment can become more generalized once success criteria are met.</li> <li>• All weed treatments shall be conducted with the intent to fully eliminate non-native invasive weed species.</li> </ul>
Fish and Wildlife Condition 3	Linear projects such as transmission lines and pipelines, often inadvertently spread noxious weeds across the landscape. This



	<p>is perhaps the greatest risk of this project to Oregon’s wildlife habitats. For this reason, ODFW believes noxious weed monitoring and control is an extremely important minimization measure (per OAR 635-415). Long-term monitoring and successful treatment of noxious weeds are important to the success of habitat restoration efforts. ODFW recommends that IPC monitor and control invasive weeds beyond the initial 5-year treatment period on a regular schedule determined collaboratively with ODOE and ODFW.</p>
Fish and Wildlife Condition 10	<p>ODFW appreciates the condition to construct the transmission line to avian-safe design standards and views this as a key avoidance and minimization measure for migratory birds. Upon further analysis, and in response to public comment, ODFW offers the following additional recommendations to further minimize potential impacts to migratory flyways in the vicinity of the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area.</p> <p>In particular, ODFW is currently focused on the importance of this area for sandhill cranes which are a species of growing conservation concern given their declining populations throughout their range, and the significant mortality rates caused by transmission lines elsewhere in the United States (see Murphy et al. 2016, link provided below).</p> <p>Through our own radio telemetry tracking efforts of sandhill cranes (data available upon request), ODFW has documented a migratory pathway that includes much of Baker and Union Counties, Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area, and the Grand Ronde Valley. Sandhill cranes move across the proposed B2H route, typically coming from the southeast, every spring and fall as well as during the summer nesting season. Wildlife Area biologists have documented groups of 700+ sandhill cranes using the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area and Grand Ronde Valley during migration, likely part of a population that winters in California’s Central Valley.</p> <p>ODFW believes a new transmission line of the size proposed for the B2H project poses an increased risk to this migratory population of sandhill cranes. ODFW recommends IPC use enhanced bird flight diversion technology such as the new UV light technology [in a spectrum not visible to most humans but visible to the birds] similar to that featured in this article <a href="https://www.tdworld.com/overhead-transmission/bird-line-">https://www.tdworld.com/overhead-transmission/bird-line-</a></p>

	<p><a href="https://fwspubs.org/doi/pdf/10.3996/052016-JFWM-037">collision</a>; or such as that discussed in Murphy et al. 2016 (<a href="https://fwspubs.org/doi/pdf/10.3996/052016-JFWM-037">https://fwspubs.org/doi/pdf/10.3996/052016-JFWM-037</a>). In both of the referenced experiments, inclusion of these flight diverters resulted in a reduction of sandhill crane collisions and an increased detectability of the lines during their nocturnal migration.</p> <p>ODFW recommends enhanced bird flight diverter measures be employed at a minimum within the Grand Ronde Valley, particularly if the selected route will cross the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area. But to most effectively avoid impacts to the sandhill crane population, the measures should extend from central Baker County to the Umatilla County line. ODFW would be happy to discuss these recommendations further with ODOE and IPC.</p>
Fish and Wildlife Condition 17	<p>This section of the Draft Proposed Order appears inconsistent with the way ODFW anticipates assessing project impacts to sage-grouse habitat and ODFW recommends updating to reflect the following information.</p> <p>To clarify, when conducting the initial project impact assessment, ODFW will request mitigation for all applicable temporary and permanent direct project impacts and transmission line tower indirect impacts. In addition, ODFW assumes that any new project roads within sage-grouse habitat not equipped with access control structures will result in indirect impacts to sage-grouse and will request appropriate mitigation (lowest level of indirect impact) for those roads with the initial request for mitigation prior to construction. Upon completion of the traffic study in year-3 of operation, ODFW will request additional mitigation as appropriate for improve existing roads or any identified increase in assumed traffic volume on new project roads.</p> <p>ODFW has additional requirements as identified in the Greater Sage-grouse Habitat Mitigation Program Operations and Administration Manual (Mitigation Manual) that should be discussed in the mitigation plan for permittee-responsible mitigation. These additional components to the mitigation plan help provide assurances that the mitigation will be conducted appropriately and remain durable through the life of the development impact to sage-grouse. ODFW suggests the following elements be included to the mitigation plan list under</p>

	<p>bullet number 3 on page 316 lines 31-39; 1. Description of the HQT results for specific mitigation site(s) and actions, 2. Description of how the durability of mitigation sites is to be achieved, 3. Provide performance measures and success criteria for mitigation actions, 4. Adaptive management considerations for changes in habitat conditions or a result of catastrophic fire, 5. Weed management plan, 6. Long term stewardship plan, and 7. Financial assurances plan/document.</p> <p>As outlined in the mitigation hierarchy in OAR 660-023-0115, compensatory mitigation for large scale development impacts to sage-grouse habitat must comply with ODFW's Sage-grouse Mitigation Policy (OAR chapter 635 division 140) which is interpreted through the principles and standards in the Mitigation Manual and assessment of project impacts through ODFW's Habitat Quantification Tool. Therefore, if the project proponent utilizes a mitigation bank, that mitigation bank will have to be approve by ODFW to ensure the mitigation is consistent with sage-grouse policy and mitigation program requirements. To capture the above considerations, ODFW requests that the following information be inserted prior to number 2 under section ii. <i>The project proponent may only use a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program that is approved by ODFW to fulfill sage-grouse mitigation requirements.</i></p>
Fish and Wildlife Condition 18	<p>Condition 18 is written so that mitigation could be postponed until later stages of project construction, potentially resulting in a loss of sage-grouse habitat between the initial construction impact and commencement of mitigation actions. The potential loss of habitat over entire project construction time period is a concern for ODFW and is inconsistent with the sage-grouse mitigation program. ODFW requests including the following clarifying language to reduce potential time lags between construction impacts and initiation of mitigation actions. <b>F&amp;W Condition 18:</b> During construction, the certificate holder shall implement the conservation actions set forth in the final Sage-Grouse Habitat Mitigation Plan referenced in Fish and Wildlife Condition 17 <i>within six months of the impact actions.</i></p>
Threatened and Endangered Species Condition 1	<p>In part (c) of this condition, there is discussion of what to do if WAGS colonies are encountered in non-Category 1 habitat. To clarify, any occupied WAGS colony would be considered</p>

	Category 1 habitat by ODFW and would be subject to our avoidance recommendations.
--	---

ODFW appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Proposed Order for the B2H Transmission Line project. If ODOE or the applicant has any questions regarding the comments herein, or seeks additional information, please do not hesitate to reach me at 503-947-6082 or [sarah.j.reif@state.or.us](mailto:sarah.j.reif@state.or.us). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sarah Reif  
Energy Coordinator

## TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE

---

**From:** DAVIS Thomas J \*Tom <Thomas.J.DAVIS@odot.state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 23, 2019 1:05 PM  
**To:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE; B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Cc:** HIKARI Sandra Y; ANDERSON Stephanie; PATTERSON Kenneth E; SIPP Craig A; WRIGHT Michelle F; BILLINGS Scott D; PENNINGER Teresa B; FROST Russell G; BERRY Jeff; WOODWORTH Paul D; CLARK Ace W; HOWLAND Paul L; HOLT Marilyn M; HAYES Lisa M; DETHLOFF William D  
**Subject:** RE: Public Notice on the Public Hearings and Comment Period for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order  
**Attachments:** DPO\_Comments\_Attachments\_20190723.pdf

Attached is the Oregon Department of Transportation, Region 5 comments as outline in the Public Notice issued May 22, 2019 accepting comments until today at 5:00 p.m. (PDT). We would like to have our comments to be included to the Draft Proposed Order.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call or email.

Thank you.  
Tom Davis

*Tom Davis, ODOT  
District 14 Operations Coordinator  
1390 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ontario, Or 97914  
(541) 823-4017  
Cell (541) 216-3896  
Fax (541) 889-6600*

---

**From:** TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE <Kellen.Tardaewether@oregon.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2019 2:18 PM  
**To:** hkerns@bakercounty.org; Eric.Evans@malheurco.org; cmclane@co.morrow.or.us; robert.waldher@umatillacounty.net; shartell@union-county.org; huntingtoncityof@gmail.com; hun1891@netscape.net; cityofnp@eoni.com; cityofadrian@hotmail.com; kpettigrew@cityofboardman.com; ecpl@centurytel.net; karen@islandcityhall.com; rstrope@cityoflagrande.org.; cityadmin@cityofcove.org; tamra@umatilla-city.org; bob@umatilla.org; town055@centurytel.net; teri.bacus@cityofpilotrock.org; citymanager@cityofstanfield.com; admin@cityofunion.com; rnudd@bakercity.com; bsmith@hermiston.or.us; manager@ci.irrigon.or.us; mayor@cityofvale.com; klamb@cityofvale.com; haines@cascadeaccess.com; BLEAKNEY Leann <bleakney@nwcouncil.org>; CANE Jason <jason.cane@state.or.us>; MILLS David <david.mills@state.or.us>; JOHNSON Jim \* ODA <jjohnson@oda.state.or.us>; CAINES Jeff <Jeff.CAINES@aviation.state.or.us>; svelund.greg@deq.state.or.us; nigg.eric@deq.state.or.us; SEIDEL Nigel E <Nigel.E.Seidel@state.or.us>; MYATT Nick A <Nick.A.Myatt@state.or.us>; REIF Sarah J <Sarah.J.Reif@state.or.us>; TOKARCZYK John A \* ODF <John.A.TOKARCZYK@oregon.gov>; WANG Yumei \* DGMI <Yumei.WANG@oregon.gov>; EDELMAN Scott <scott.edelman@state.or.us>; JININGS Jon <jon.jinings@state.or.us>; MURPHY Tim <timothy.murphy@state.or.us>; BROWN Lauren <Lauren.BROWN@state.or.us>; CARY Dan <dan.cary@state.or.us>; DAVIS Thomas J \*Tom <Thomas.J.DAVIS@odot.state.or.us>; BEALS Alice \* OPRD <Alice.Beals@oregon.gov>; MULDOON Matt <matt.muldoon@state.or.us>; LGKHOH@puc.state.or.us; POULEY John \* OPRD <John.Pouley@oregon.gov>; JOHNSON



Ian \* OPRD <Ian.Johnson@oregon.gov>; SCHWARTZ Tracy \* OPRD <Tracy.Schwartz@oregon.gov>; jerry.k.sauter@state.or.us; RStrope@cityoflagrande.org; rstraub@blm.gov; skokos@usbr.gov; callianneharris@usbr.gov; kimberly.peacher@navy.mil; dnelson09@fs.fed.us; dlteeman.burns.paiute@gmail.com; catherinedickson@ctuir.org; tearafarrow@ctuir.org; christian.nauer@ctwsbnr.org; robert.brunoe@ctwsbnr.org; roberta.kirk@ctwsbnr.org  
**Subject:** Public Notice on the Public Hearings and Comment Period for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order

Good afternoon,

I'm forwarding the GovDelivery announcement that just was issued for the proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line draft proposed order (DPO) on the application for site certificate (ASC). The DPO and ASC can be viewed and downloaded on the [project webpage](#). The attached Notice of the DPO has additional information about the comment period and upcoming public hearings. It has been mailed to the individuals on the mailing lists and was published in several newspapers within the vicinity of the proposed facility.

I'd like to thank all of you for your time and efforts providing your feedback during the review of this facility. Let me know what questions you have!

Kellen

**Kellen Tardaewether**  
Senior Siting Analyst  
Energy Facility Siting Division  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St N.E., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301  
P:(503) 373-0214  
C: (503) 586-6551  
[Oregon.gov/energy](http://Oregon.gov/energy)



*Leading Oregon to a safe, clean, and sustainable energy future.*

## **Public Notice on the Public Hearings and Comment Period for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Draft Proposed Order**

### **Description:**

Idaho Power Company (applicant) submitted to the Oregon Department of Energy (Department) an application for site certificate (ASC) for the proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line. The Department serves as staff to the

Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC). The proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line would be a 500 kilovolt, high-voltage electric transmission line. The proposed facility would cross five counties in Oregon: Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Baker, and Malheur.

The Department issued a draft proposed order (DPO) on the application on May 22, 2019. The DPO recommends EFSC approve the application and grant a site certificate, subject to the conditions of approval listed in the DPO.

**Public Hearings and Public Comment Period:**

EFSC will hold a public hearing on the draft proposed order in each of the counties the proposed facility crosses. Each hearing will begin at 4:30 p.m. and will include a brief introduction by ODOE staff and directions from an independent hearing officer, appointed by EFSC. The dates, times, and locations are included in the Public Notice of the DPO and also provided below.

Draft Proposed Order Public Hearings			
County	Date	Time	Address
Malheur	Tuesday, June 18, 2019	4:30 – 8 p.m.	Four Rivers Cultural Center, 676 SW 5th Ave, Ontario, OR 97914
Baker	Wednesday, June 19, 2019	4:30 – 8 p.m.	Baker City Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall, 2005 Valley Ave, Baker City, OR 97814
Union	Thursday, June 20, 2019	4:30 – 8 p.m.	Blue Mountain Conference Center, 404 12th St, La Grande, OR 97850
Umatilla	Wednesday, June 26, 2019	4:30 – 8 p.m.	Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate, Pendleton, OR 97801
Morrow	Thursday, June 27, 2019	4:30 – 8 p.m.	Port of Morrow, Riverfront Room, 2 Marine Dr NE, Boardman, OR 97818

Written comments to be included in the record of the public hearings must be received by the Department **no later than July 23, 2019 at 5 pm (PDT)**. Written comments may be submitted prior to, during, and after the public hearings by mail, email, hand-delivery or fax to the hearing officer, in care of:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
Phone: 503-373-0214  
Address: 550 Capitol St N.E.  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

**Additional Information:**

*You received this notice either because you previously signed up for email updates through GovDelivery related to specific siting projects, all Energy Facility Siting Council activities (the "General List"). You will automatically receive all future notices on this facility. You will automatically receive all future notices per your request or GovDelivery choices, unless you unsubscribe via GovDelivery or by contacting the Department.*

*If you have any questions or comments about GovDelivery please feel free to contact the Department's Division Assistant Esther Kooistra at [esther.kooistra@oregon.gov](mailto:esther.kooistra@oregon.gov)*



---

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or e-mail address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your e-mail address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact [subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com](#).

---

For questions about the content of this message, please contact us at [AskEnergy@Oregon.gov](mailto:AskEnergy@Oregon.gov).

---

This service is provided to you by the [Oregon Department of Energy](#).

---

This email was sent to [kellen.tardaewether@oregon.gov](mailto:kellen.tardaewether@oregon.gov) using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of the Oregon Department of Energy · 550 Capitol St. NE, 1st Floor · Salem, OR 97301-3742 · 503-378-4040





# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Transportation

District 14

1390 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue

Ontario, OR, 97914-2945

Phone: (541) 823-4017

Fax: (541) 889-6600

Email: [thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us](mailto:thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us)

**TO:** Kellen Tardaewether  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St N.E., 1st Floor  
Salem, OR 97301

**FROM:** Tom Davis, District 14 Operations Coordinator  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
1390 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ontario, OR 97914  
(541) 823-4017  
[thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us](mailto:thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us)

**DATE:** July 23, 2019

**RE:** Oregon Department of Transportation Comments for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission  
Line Draft Proposed Order Comments

Kellen: this letter is Oregon Department of Transportation comments on the Draft Proposed Order for the Boardman to Hemingway project. The notice dated May 22, 2019 allows for comments through July 23, 2019. These comments are based on ODOT's and Idaho Power previous correspondences.

ODOT has submitted several correspondence since 2012 addressing ODOT's concerns with the B2H project. ODOT submitted comments during the Site Certification comment period which closed on November 26, 2018. A letter dated December 21, 2018 was submitted as a follow up to those comments submitted during the Site Certification comment period. This follow-up letter was included as Attachment 3 under Draft Proposed Order dated 5/22/2019.

Idaho Power, ODOE and ODOT did continue working through ODOT's concerns. On March 20, 2019 a letter (see attached) was sent to ODOE on the continued work between Idaho Power and ODOT.

### Quarries

On March 8, 2019 Idaho Power submitted to ODOT alternative routes (see attached) involving each of the impacted quarries. These quarries do have a value to ODOT. These alternatives submitted by Idaho Power had not at that time been presented to the impacted property owners or to ODOE. Two of these alternatives will still have a direct impact to ODOT. ODOT will lose production at these quarries which will require future sites to be developed. These alternative routes were developed based on previous communications between ODOT and Idaho Power to provide the least amount of impact.

Idaho Power will need to work with the impacted property owners on the three realignment alternatives. If the property owners are in agreement with these proposals, Idaho Power will include these through an amendment process through ODOE. Should any of these alternatives not move forward, Idaho Power shall reengage ODOT to work towards an agreeable solution.

Other items dealing with quarries that ODOT and Idaho Power has agreed to work together on:

- Roads and access to or through ODOT quarries.
- Easement form; ODOT & Idaho Power both have Easement forms that are normally used. Both will work together in developing language for the Easement Agreement.

### **Scenic Byways**

In our March 20, 2019 letter to ODOE, ODOT recommended that the proposed Boardman to Hemingway transmission line project avoid all impacts to the intrinsic values including scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, archeological, and natural resources to five Scenic Byways - Hells Canyon Scenic Byway All-American Road, the Journey Through Time, Blue Mountain and Elkhorn Drive State Scenic Byways and the Grande Tour Scenic Route.

In response, Idaho Power revised Exhibit R of the Application Site Certification to add the Grande Tour Scenic Route to the discussion of State Scenic Byways and to better describe the location of all the scenic byways in relation to the Project. Based on our review, there are a number of items in the Exhibit R Errata document that received a lower score than ODOT would propose.

#### **Hells Canyon Scenic Byway All-American Road**

For example, we disagree with Idaho Power's scoring of Viewer Perception in B2H Exhibit R Errata Sheets table R-2 on page 6 and under Section 3.3.2.10 Visual Impact Assessment on page 9. Considering the transmission line crosses the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway, views of the Project are predominately head on. Since this would put the transmission line in the foreground (up to 0.5 miles), we would say that the impact is Medium instead of Low. Although views of the project will be episodic, Idaho Power assumes a vehicular travelling speed of 45 miles per hour. Their assessment does not take into account cycle tourism along Scenic Byways where the average travel speed is around 15 mph. OR 86 in particular attracts a significant number of riders through this area as it is on the Adventure Cycling Tour Route (from Baker City to Missoula) and the TransAmerica Bike Route (from Astoria, Oregon to Youngstown, Virginia).

We also disagree with Idaho Power's Significance Determination –on table R-2 on page 6 and under Significance Determination on page 9. Hells Canyon Scenic Byway is a National Scenic Byway recognized by the US Department of Transportation. The most-scenic byways are designated All - American Roads. Designation means that they have features that do not exist elsewhere in the United States. Hells Canyon Scenic Byway was designated as an All – American Road in 2000 and shares this distinction in Oregon with the Historic Columbia River Highway and the Pacific Coast Scenic Byway. The Hell's Canyon Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan identifies a strategy for maintaining and enhancing the six intrinsic values noted above. Scenic quality of this portion of the Hell's Canyon Scenic Byway is unique and encompasses the historic significance associated with the physical elements of the landscape that the pioneers endured on the Oregon Trail. Since the proposed route crosses OR 86 in the vicinity of the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, we would say that visual impacts to the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway are *Potentially Significant*.



## **Grande Tour Scenic Route**

On page 10 of the B2H Exhibit R Errata Sheets Idaho Power describes the **Project Location** in relation to the Grande Tour Scenic Route. *The Proposed Route passes within 0.2 miles of the western most portion of the Grande Tour Route along Foothill Road near Ladd Marsh WMA about 5 miles south of La Grande in Union County (Attachment R-3, Figure R-3-3).* The Project would put the transmission line in the immediate foreground distance zone (up to 0.5 miles) that is ranked as High. As such ODOT disagrees with Idaho Power's Viewer Perception assessment on table R-2 on page 6 & Magnitude of Impact table on page 17.

Again, Idaho Power does not take into account bicycle or pedestrian travel along the scenic route. The close proximity of the Grande Tour Scenic Route to the City of La Grande attracts people of all ages to walk, run and bike for outdoor recreation, to access wildlife area lands east of Foothill Road to view Sandhill cranes and other migratory birds and west of Foothill Road to hike the trails on Glass Hill. For these reasons, we would say that the Viewer Perception is High instead of Low.

ODOT also disagrees with the **Mitigation Considered**, under Section 3.3.2.10 on page 10, for the Grande Tour Route along Foothill Road. Idaho Power's view shed analysis indicates that the Morgan Lake Route is not visible from any portion of the byway (Attachment R-6). ODOT specifically states in our letter of March 20, 2019 with regards to the Grande Tour Scenic Byway that "Preferred mitigation would be the alternative alignment (Morgan Lake Alternative) in order to keep transmission lines further away from the scenic byway to avoid impacts to intrinsic qualities."

Regarding the Magnitude of Impact tables on page 16 & 17 – the increase in size of the structure (60-70 feet taller than existing structures) would be a High Impact. The landscape is open so the contrast to a tall transmission structure is High. Also, in locations where they will be cutting through vegetation and making openings, as seen in former renderings, will make the transmission structures very noticeable and will significantly lower the value of the scenic quality of the Grande Tour Scenic Route that is intended to showcase outstanding scenery and preserve and maintain the area's history. In our opinion, Resource Change would also be High, as the Project will appear to dominate the view.

ODOT further disagrees with Idaho Power's Significance Determination – table R-2 on page 6 & the determination on page 18. The Grande Tour Scenic Route is a designated Oregon Tour Route by the Oregon Department of Transportation that represents scenic views and sites of statewide significance. Ladd Marsh Wildlife Management Area is one of four areas of scenic quality identified in the Grande Tour Management Plan. The Ladd Marsh wildlife area to the west of Foothill Road, locally known as Glass Hill winter range, is prime elk habitat that the Project will cross. The wildlife area to the east of Foothill Road includes the Foothill Road Viewpoint where the Project is within close proximity. Foothill Road itself is part of the Oregon Trail, National Historic Trail Route. Based on our analysis the degree to which impacts are caused by the Project are *Potentially Significant*. ODOT's recommended mitigation would be an alternative alignment to avoid all impacts to the intrinsic values of the Grande Tour Scenic Route.

## **Conclusion**

These comments have been documented throughout ODOE planning and permitting process. In working with Idaho Power, ODOT's concerns for rock quarries have been addressed. Should these alternative routes not be approved, then ODOT and Idaho Power will need to reengage and determine the next course for mitigation.

As for the Scenic Byways ODOT still has several concerns and mitigation measures needing to be addressed. One type of mitigation that needs to be taken is a look at the possibly of placing the transmission facility underground. This would only need to take place for the Hells Canyon and Grande Tour Scenic Byways. This has taken place with previous transmission lines impacting Scenic Byways, such as the Great River Road Scenic Byway in Minnesota.

**Previous Correspondence**

January 30, 2012 – ODOT letter of concerns to Idaho Power regarding the proposed alignment.

April 9, 2013 – ODOT comments on the preliminary Application for Site Certificate.

March 5, 2015 – ODOT submits a response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

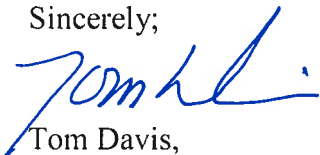
August 31, 2017 – ODOT submits a response to the Amended Preliminary Application for Site Certificate.

November 23, 2018 – ODOT submits a response to the Site Certificate review.

December 21, 2018 – ODOT submitted a response follow-up to the Site Certificate review letter.

March 20, 2019 – ODOT follow-up letter to ODOE addressing ODOT concerns from previous correspondence.

Sincerely;



Tom Davis,  
District 14 Operations Coordinator



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Transportation

District 14

1390 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue

Ontario, OR, 97914-2945

Phone: (541) 823-4017

Fax: (541) 889-6600

Email: [thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us](mailto:thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us)

**TO:** Kellen Tardaewether  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St N.E., 1st Floor  
Salem, OR 97301

**FROM:** Tom Davis, District 14 Operations Coordinator  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
1390 SE 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Ontario, OR 97914  
(541) 823-4017  
[Thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us](mailto:Thomas.j.davis@odot.state.or.us)

**DATE:** March 20, 2019

**RE:** Oregon Department of Transportation Follow-up letter for the Boardman to Hemingway  
Transmission Line Project

---

Kellen: this letter is in response to the ongoing process between Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Idaho Power. We are working through the process to address the impacts to our previous listed quarries and Scenic Byways.

Since 2011 ODOT has been working on the Boardman to Hemmingway project addressing concerns on ODOT highway and interstate right of ways, quarries and Scenic Byways.

January 30, 2012 – ODOT letter of concerns to Idaho Power regarding the proposed alignment.

April 9, 2013 – ODOT comments on the preliminary Application for Site Certificate.

March 5, 2015 – ODOT submits a response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

August 31, 2017 – ODOT submits a response to the Amended Preliminary Application for Site Certificate.

November 23, 2018 – ODOT submits a response to the Site Certificate review.

December 21, 2018 – ODOT submitted a response follow-up to the Site Certificate review letter.

Even though in previous ODOT communications with ODOE, ODOT still has three quarries and Scenic Byways that will be impacted by the Boardman to Hemmingway project. ODOE has mentioned that the application is currently “locked-in” for review for the Council. This will mean that changes to the existing route

will need to go to the Council through an amendment process.

### **Quarries**

On March 8, 2019 Idaho Power submitted to ODOT alternative routes (see attached) involving each of the impacted quarries. These quarries do have a value to ODOT. Idaho Power mentioned that these alternatives have not been presented to the impacted property owners or to ODOE. Two of these alternatives will still have a direct impact to ODOT. ODOT will lose production at these quarries which will require future sites to be developed. These alternative routes were developed based on previous communications between ODOT and Idaho Power to provide the least amount of impact.

Idaho Power will need to work with the impacted property owners on the three realignment alternatives. If the property owners are in agreement with these proposals, Idaho Power will include these through the amendment process through ODOE. Should any these alternative not move forward, Idaho Power shall reengage ODOT to work towards an agreeable solution.

Other items that ODOT and Idaho Power has agreed to work together on:

- Roads and access to or through ODOT quarries.
- Easement form. ODOT & Idaho Power both have Easement forms that are normally used. Both will work together in developing language for the Easement Agreement.

### **Scenic Byways**

During the review process ODOT felt that the Scenic Byways did not have enough information to base a review of the impacts to the Scenic Byways. On March 12, 2019 ODOT and Idaho Power had a conference call to discuss additional information showing the impacts to the Scenic Byways.

Overall, ODOT recommends that Idaho Power's Boardman to Hemingway transmission line project avoids all impacts to the intrinsic values of the Hells Canyon All American Road, Elkhorn Drive Scenic Byway, Journey Through Time Scenic Byway and the Grande Tour Route. The Scenic Byways' intrinsic qualities include scenic, historic, recreational, cultural, archeological, and natural resources.

Should the new transmission line project impact any of the Scenic Byways' intrinsic qualities, Idaho Power should mitigate for the impacts appropriately. To reduce impacts to scenic qualities, the structures should be replaced in kind or with a structure size and color that responds to the surrounding environment.

- Vertical features should respond to the surrounding landscape. The observer's eye should be led to the landscape, rather than to the structure itself.
- The color of features should be derived from the natural color tones of the surrounding landscape and selected to harmonize with the natural setting.
- Texture of the features should be rough with an irregular pattern, rather than smooth and reflective for the purpose of minimizing the reflectivity of the various features. The textures should blend with the natural setting.
- In vegetated or forested areas, use native vegetation to screen views of construction impacts such as slope cuts that are visible from the byways and points of interest.

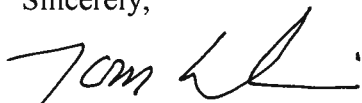
Idaho Power sent requested information (see attachments) which ODOT has reviewed. Based on the analysis on information provided by Idaho Power ODOT has found the following:

- Grande Tour Route –The Proposed Route would be visible, especially in the vicinity of Ladd Marsh. The proposed route passes within 0.2 miles of the western portion of the Grande Tour Route along Foothill Road near the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Management Area. Viewers on Foothill Road also include bicyclist and pedestrians that use the scenic byway for recreational purposes as well as residents of century farms and historic homesteads built in the early 1900s located along the route. Preferred mitigation would be the alternative alignment (Morgan Lake Alternative) in order to keep transmission lines further away from the scenic byway to avoid impacts to its intrinsic qualities. A small portion of the Proposed Route will also be visible from Thief Valley Reservoir. Here the Proposed Route is 3.75 miles west. Mitigation to be considered could be stained towers with a natina finish to assist in making the towers less visible in the vicinity of Thief Valley Reservoir.
- Hells Canyon All American Road – The Hells Canyon All American Road includes part of OR 86 in Baker County. The Proposed Route crosses OR 86 in the vicinity of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center with potentially significant visual impacts from the transmission line towers. Proposed mitigation to use a lower H-frame structure with a natina finish that are visible from OR 86 would be comparable to existing towers for the 230-kV transmission line that could potentially reduce impacts to scenic qualities.
- Journey Through Time Scenic Byway – The Proposed Route is approximately 3 miles from the scenic byway but would not be visible from this portion of the byway in the vicinity of Baker City.
- Elkhorn Scenic Byway – The Proposed Route, is located approximately 3 miles from the scenic byway in the vicinity of Baker City but would not be visible from this portion of the byway. The Proposed Route is about 7.3 miles from the scenic byway in the vicinity of Haines. Some portion of the Proposed Route may be visible in this area but would most likely be blocked by terrain or far enough away to not be an impact to the scenic qualities of the byway.
- Blue Mountain Scenic Byway – The Proposed Route is located approximately 9.5 miles at its closest point to the scenic byway and would not be visible.

### **Conclusion**

This letter identified the two remaining issues that had been previously documented throughout the ODOE process. In working with Idaho Power, ODOT's concerns for the rock quarries and Scenic Byways have been addressed. Should these alternative routes not be approved, then ODOT and Idaho Power will need to reengage and determine the next course for mitigation.

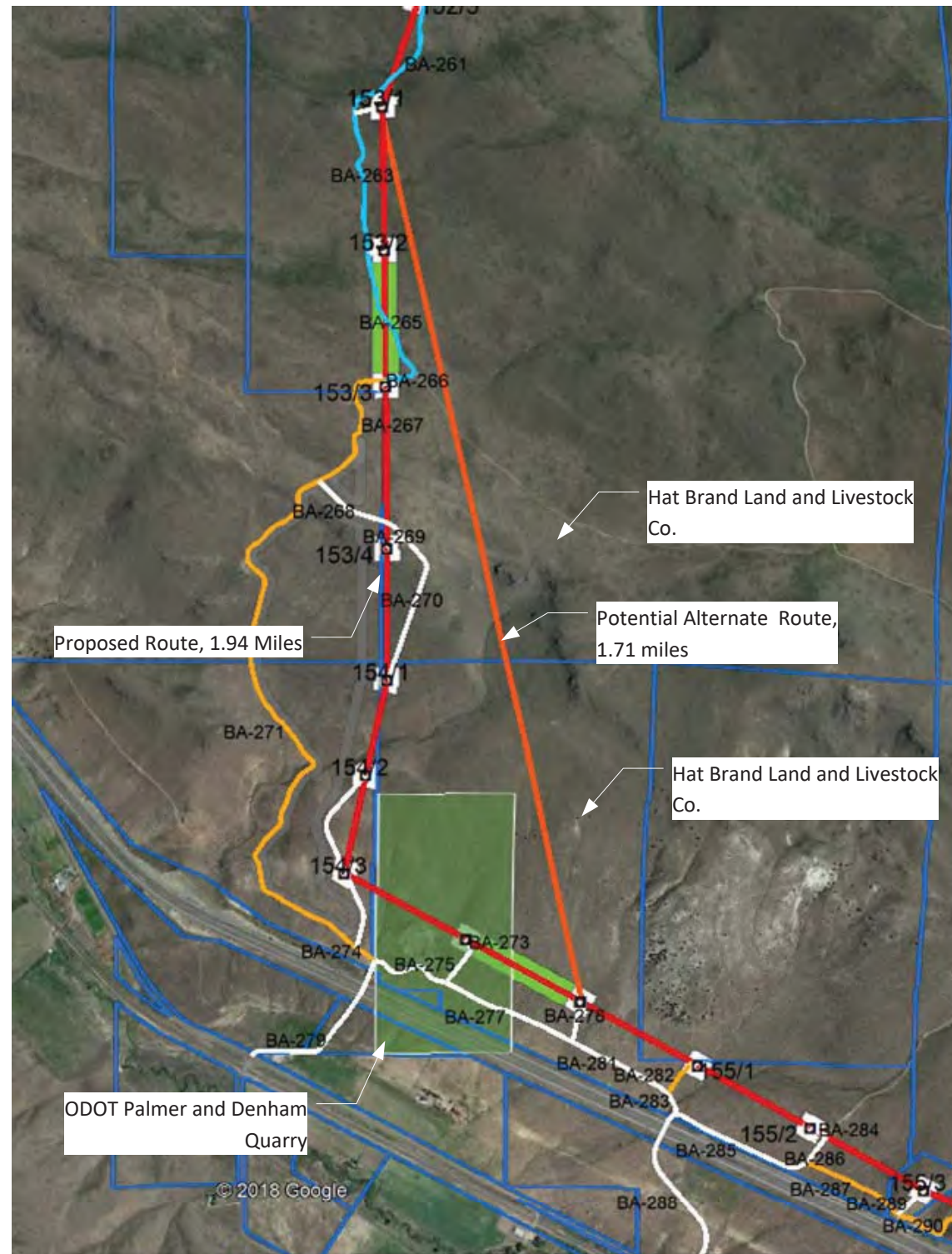
Sincerely;



Tom Davis,

District 14 Operations Coordinator

# Parker and Denham ODOT Site

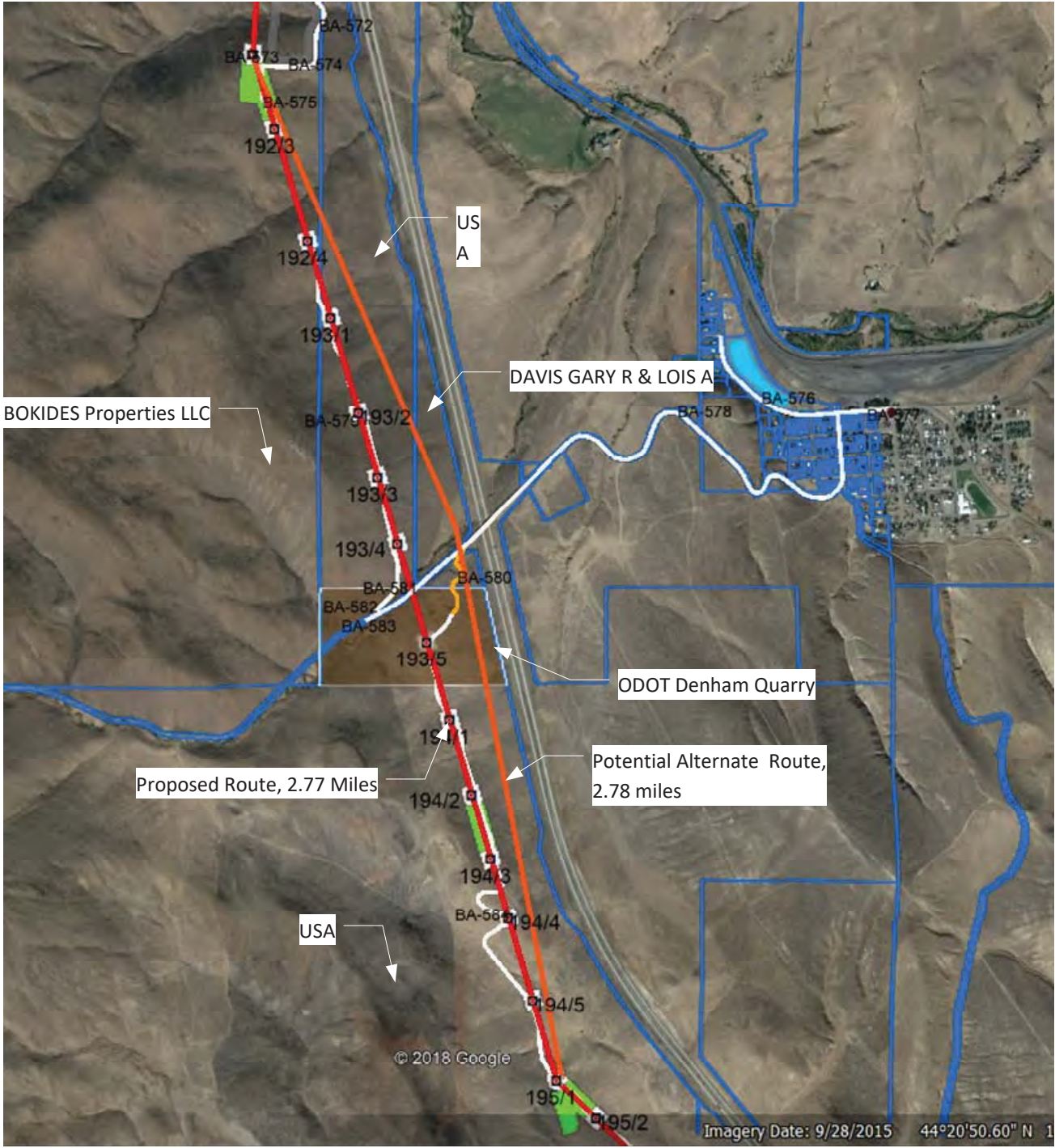


Proposed Route: 1.94 miles  
Affected Landowners: Hat Brand Land & Live Stock LLC, Trindle Land LLC.

Alternate Revised Route: 1.71 miles  
Affected Landowners: Hat Brand Land & Live Stock LLC.



# Durbin ODOT Site

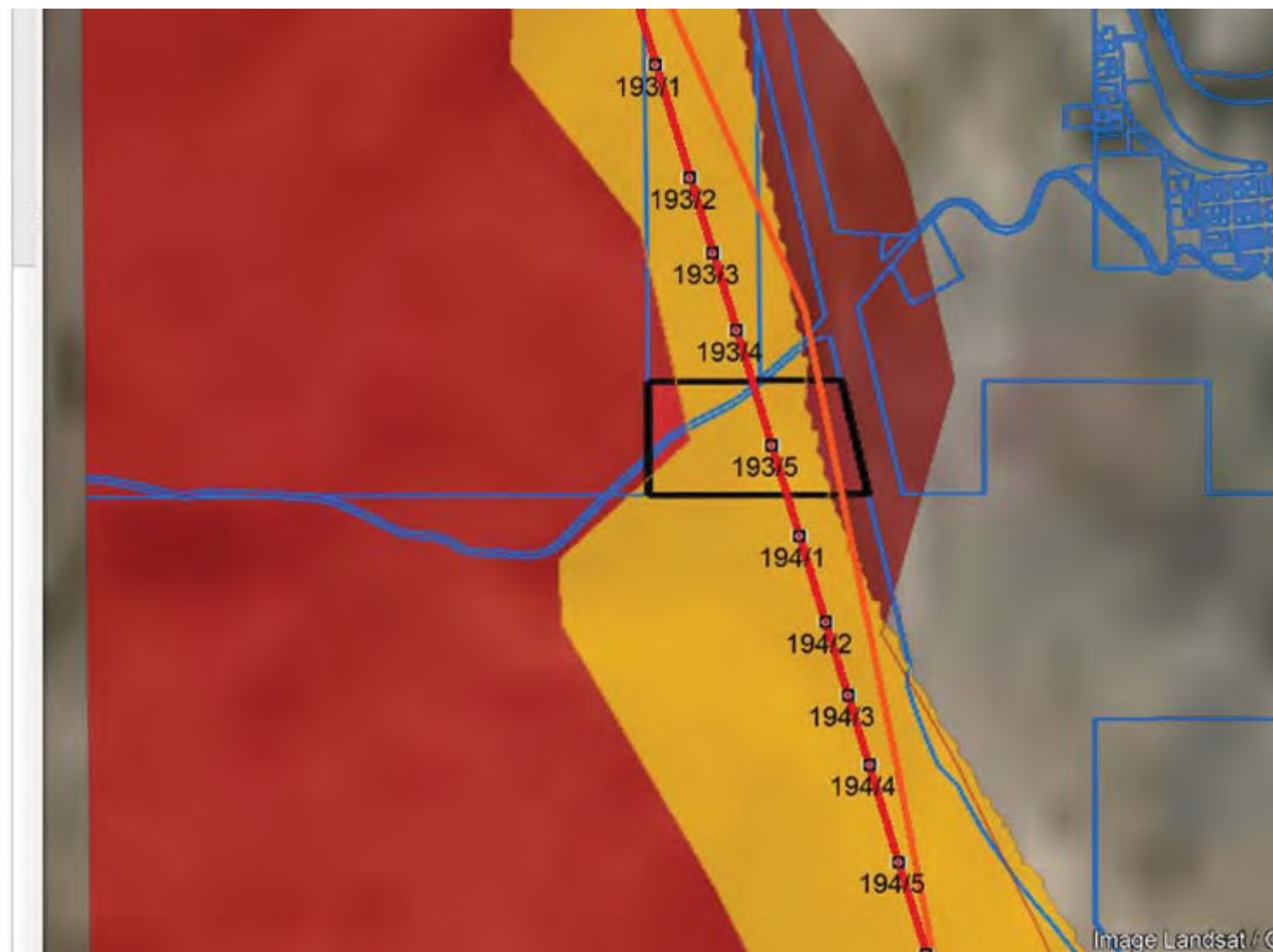
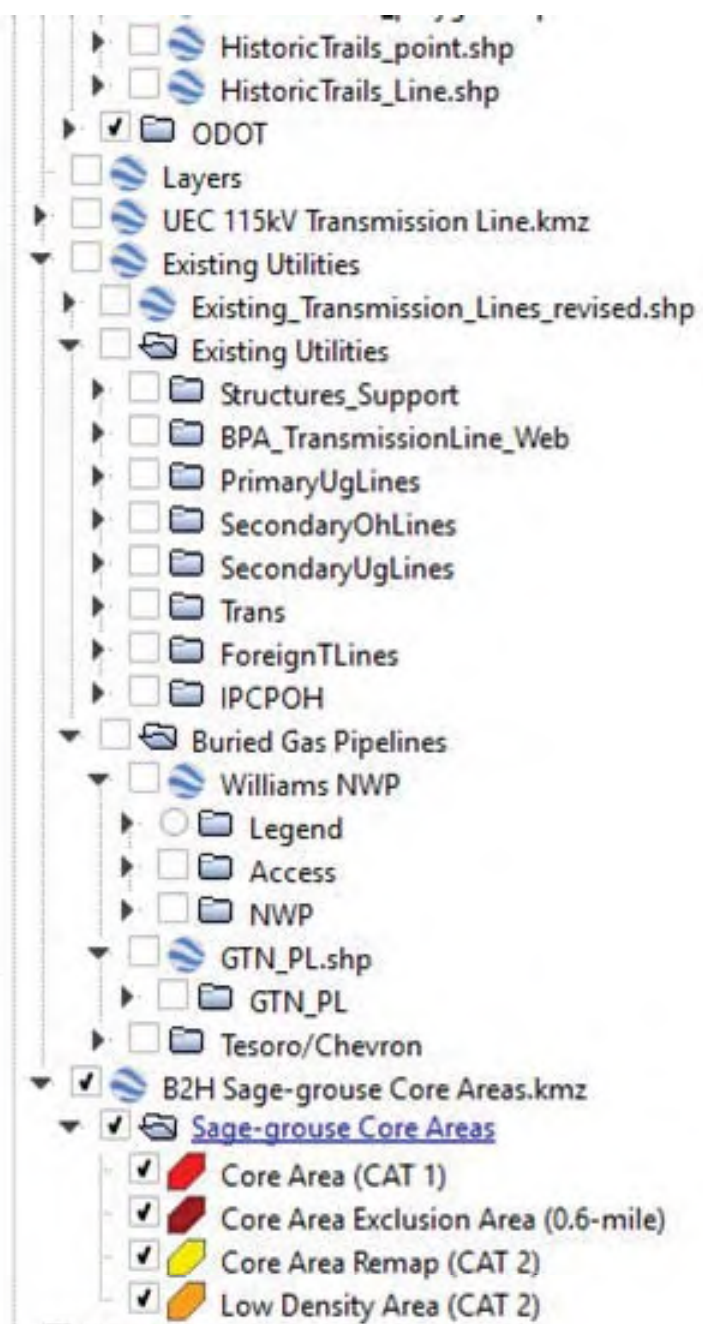


Proposed Route: 2.77 miles  
Affected Landowners: Bokides, USA,

Alternate Revised Route: 2.78 miles  
Affected Landowners: Bokides, Davis, USA

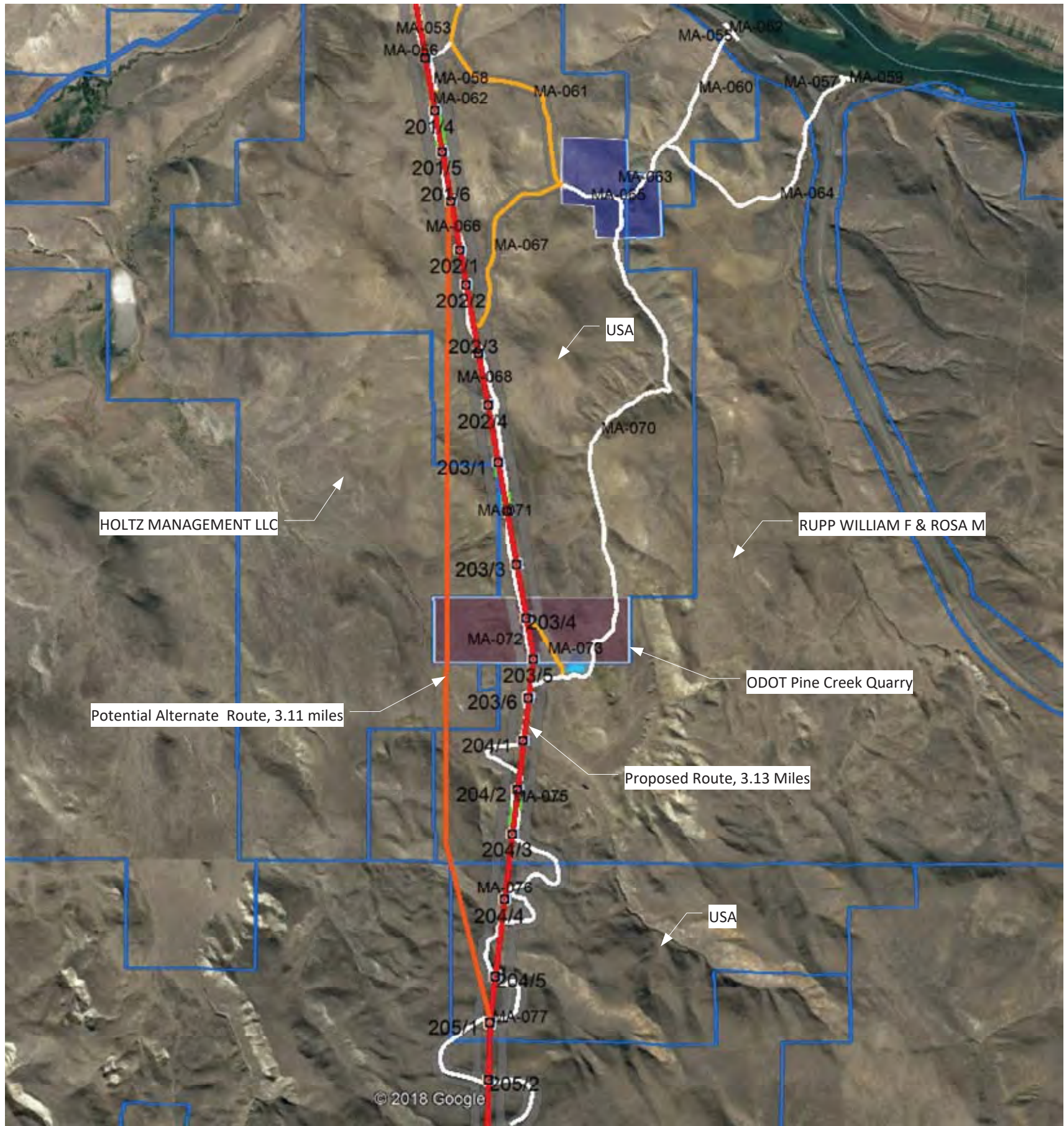
On the edge of Sage Grouse Habitat, in Remapped Core Area (see attached sheet)

The project is already crossing a number of other parcels owned by Davis.





# Pine Creek ODOT Site



Proposed Route: 3.13 miles  
Affected Landowners: Rupp, USA

Alternate Revised Route: 3.11 miles  
Affected Landowners: Rupp, Holtz, USA

Outside of Sage Grouse Habitat

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Susan Albers <susan.albers@lagrandesd.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 4:17 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Attachments:** doc04563820190822161349.pdf

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <[ce.copier@lagrandesd.org](mailto:ce.copier@lagrandesd.org)>  
Date: Thu, Aug 22, 2019 at 4:14 PM  
Subject:  
To: <[susan.albers@lagrandesd.org](mailto:susan.albers@lagrandesd.org)>

-----  
TASKalfa 7002i  
[00:17:c8:4d:93:20]  
-----

--  
Sue Albers  
Central School  
541-663-3530



August 5, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposal Order May 23, 2019.

Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

I am very concerned about the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project as it is proposed. My concerns are for the safety of myself and all of the citizens of La Grande if this line is permitted. My primary concerns are slope instability and wildfire hazard.

The proposed route sited to the west of La Grande is placed on a ridge noted to have instability and high risk for slides. The geologic study provided by Idaho Power references several studies (below).

Table H-2. USGS Quaternary Faults within 5 Miles of Project by County on page H-12 clearly shows that the project is placed right on an active fault in the West Grande Ronde Valley Fault Zone. In addition, in exhibit H, Geological Hazards and Soil Stability, Table B3: Soils Descriptions, Union County, much of the erosion hazard is rated "severe." Below is part of the report:

## 5.2 La Grande Area Slope Instability

*As part of our study, we reviewed DOGAMI's open file report: Engineering Geology of the La Grande Area, Union County, Oregon, by Schlicker and Deacon (1971). The study identified several landslides in the areas west and south of La Grande. The majority of the landslide features mapped by Schlicker and Deacon (1971) were similarly mapped as landslides or alluvial fans in Ferns and others (2010). The current SLIDO database uses the feature locations mapped in Ferns and others (2010). While the two map sets generally agree, there are differences in the mapped limits of some landslide and alluvial fan areas, and there is one landslide area in Schlicker and Deacon (1971), near towers 106/3 and 106/4, which is not included in SLIDO or Ferns and others (2010). The Landslide Inventory in Appendix E includes mapped landslide and alluvial fan limits from both SLIDO and Schlicker and Deacon (1971).*

This slope instability is not inconsequential to a project like this. Recall in 2014, Oso, Washington, was the site of a catastrophic mudslide as the result of logging disturbance of the soil upslope from the town combined with significant rainfall. This resulted in 43 fatalities. We must learn from previous mistakes in not heeding the geologists' warnings. The area down slope from the proposed B2H line lies the Grande Ronde Hospital and Clinics, which employs hundreds of people and is the critical access hospital for this region. La Grande High School and Central Elementary School are also positioned down slope from the proposed towers. At least 100 homes are positioned down slope of the proposed towers. According to "Engineering Geology of the La Grande Area, Union County, Oregon" maps published by Schlicker, and Deacon (1971), the ENTIRE area of the hillside is deemed a "landslide area" in the La Grande SE quadrangle. This is not a safe place for a transmission line.

The next significant hazard to our community is wildfire. Oregon is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> Most Wildfire Prone state in the United States according to Verisk Wildfire Risk analysis. La Grande is ranked in the top 50 communities in Oregon with the greatest cumulative housing-unit exposure to wildfire as referenced in "Exposure of human communities to wildfire in the Pacific Northwest," by Joe H. Scott, Julie Gilbertson-Day and Richard D. Stratton (available at [http://pyrologix.com/ftp/Public/Reports/RiskToCommunities\\_OR-WA\\_BriefingPaper.pdf](http://pyrologix.com/ftp/Public/Reports/RiskToCommunities_OR-WA_BriefingPaper.pdf)). Finally the proposed route is in the vicinity of Morgan lake, the highest risk area (#1) in Union County in terms of wildland-urban interface, according to the County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan, August 10, 2005.

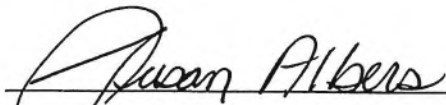
Cal Fire cites Pacific Gas and Electric equipment and power lines as the cause of numerous wildfires in the state in the last 2 years. This includes the Camp Fire in Butte County (2018), Tubbs Fire in Napa/Sonoma Counties (2017), Witch Fire in San Diego (2007), Valley Fire in Lake/Napa/Sonoma Counties (2015), Nuns Fire in Sonoma County (2017), which were all attributed to transmission.

The Boardman To Hemingway Transmission Line Project proposal places lines about 2000 feet or less than half a mile from the La Grande city limits, including medium density housing within the city as well as Grande Ronde Hospital. If a line from this proposed route were to spark a fire, La Grande residents would have little time to react. According to National Geographic, wildfires can move as fast as 6.7 mph in forests and 14 mph in grasslands. A fast-moving fire starting at the B2H lines could move to residential areas of La Grande and HOSPITAL in 10 minutes. This is frightening and an unacceptable risk for our citizens.

The current proposal for a Boardman to Hemingway transmission line does not adequately address the issue of landslides, basically by stating it will be mitigated somehow when the time comes to build. The proposal offers no analysis of wildfire risk, which is an unacceptable omission. All of the routes proposed are unsafe and create an unacceptable risk to the citizens of La Grande.

The Council should DENY the request for a site certificate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan Albers", written over a horizontal line.

Name: Susan Albers

Address: 301 C Avenue  
La Grande, OR. 97850



Kellen Tardaaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

August 5, 2019

B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposal Order May 23, 2019.

To: Chairman Beyeler and Members of the Council

I am very concerned about the risks to our communities during construction of the proposed transmission line. I take particular exception to the Exhibit G Materials Analysis, Attachment G-5 FRAMEWORK BLASTING PLAN. The document states; "This plan framework serves as baseline document to guide development of the complete Blasting Plan developed with the Plan of Development **before** issuance of the site certificate and commencement of construction."

On page 7, at 3.4, Design Feature 32 states; "Watering facilities (tanks, natural springs and/or developed springs, water lines, wells, etc.) will be repaired or replaced if they are damaged or destroyed by construction and/or maintenance activities to their pre-disturbed condition as required by the landowner or land-management agency. Should construction and/or maintenance activities prevent use of a watering facility while livestock are grazing in that area, then the Applicant will provide alternate sources of water and/or alternate sources of forage where water is available."

The stated purpose of blasting is to "crack" rocks to facilitate geotechnical drilling. Introducing new or expanded fissures/cracks into rock may alter the flow direction or amount of water to existing natural springs or wells.

Since there is no indication that Idaho Power will determine "predisturbed" water flow from wells or springs, how will the landowner prove that flow has been reduced? Without an agreed upon baseline, negotiation or legal action will be required. In the case of private landowners, that will mean legal expenses that may not be available.

Prior to the issuance of a Site Certificate, EFSC should require the additional condition:

**ADDED CONDITION TO BLASTING PLAN, DESIGN FEATURES:**

**Idaho Power will determine baseline flow of natural springs or wells within 1/4 mile of blasting site.**

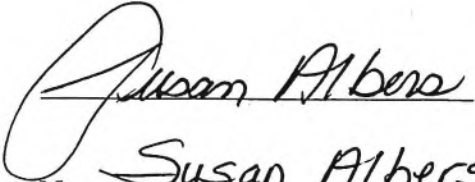
Exhibit G Materials Analysis, Attachment G-5 FRAMEWORK BLASTING PLAN on page 5 at 3.3 Safety Procedures, 3.3.3 Fire Safety: Posting fire suppression personnel at the blast site during high-fire danger periods and prohibiting blasting during extreme fire danger periods is not sufficient to minimize fire risk.

Idaho Power has written terminology, "high-fire danger periods" and "extreme fire danger periods" without definition or concurrence with Oregon Department of Forestry. Fire Suppression Personnel have been previously identified in the Fire Suppression and Prevention Plan as a "watchman." This is inadequate!

**ADDED CONDITION TO BLASTING PLAN, FIRE SAFETY:**

*During blasting Idaho Power will provide a water tender staffed by a crew of at least two personnel.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Albers". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name label.

Name:

Susan Albers

Address:

301 C Avenue  
LaGrande, OR 97850

August 15, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Via E-MAIL: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project  
9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019

To: Chairmen Beyeler and Members of the Council

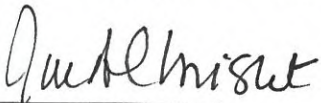
I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Project Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project. I am very supportive of the Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA) and the work that they have done to protect the Oregon Trail, especially here in Oregon. OCTA is mentioned numerous times in **Exhibit S** and the **Historic Properties Management Plan and Programmatic Agreement**. OCTA does NOT believe that Exhibit S Historic Properties Management Plan is complete in 7.2.3 Field Crew, and offers this additional condition.

**ADDITIONAL CONDITION #1** OCTA recommends that the Council add an Oregon Trail expert to the Cultural Resource Team. This Oregon Trail individual will have qualifications similar to Field crew members. For example, they will have an undergraduate degree in anthropology, archaeology, or in a field such as geology, engineering or history. It will not be necessary to have attended a field school. This individual will be recommended by the National OCTA President and agreed to by the Field Director.

The field surveys, even with SHPO and NPS data, have missed and/or mislabeled some sections of the emigrant trail. OCTA wants the public to know where the Trails are and I do too! OCTA over the years has marked the trail location with wooden signs, small triangles attached to trees, and more recently, carbonite posts and steel rails. Most private property owners are proud of the trail on their property, and after obtaining permission allow the public to walk and hike on the trail.

Idaho Power and their consultants have not acknowledged trail crossings shown on submitted Maps and do not acknowledge visual intrusion of the line for 10 miles per standards, and only upon ODOE's RAI's, put into documents some trail protections. This has been consistent from the BLM process to current day.

Considering the points above, Idaho Power does not comply with the state standards for cultural resources OAR 354-022-0090, or 345-022-0080, Scenic resources. **EFSC Must Deny the Site Certificate!**



Signature

Printed name: Jennifer M Albright

Mailing address: 1206 Broadway Street, Baker City, OR 97814-2951

Email address: [albright.jenny@gmail.com](mailto:albright.jenny@gmail.com)

phone number: (optional) 541 519 7828



August 15, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Via E-MAIL: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019

To: Chairmen Beyeler and Members of the Council

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the B2H Draft Proposed Order. The Oregon National Historic Trail will be significantly affected by the B2H Transmission Line.

The Draft Proposed Order identifies significant impacts to the Oregon Trail in several Exhibits, including Exhibit C: Property Location and Maps; Exhibit L: Protected Areas; Exhibit R: Scenic Aesthetic Values; Exhibit S: Cultural Resources; Exhibit T: Recreational Facilities; and Exhibit X: Noise.

B2H crosses the Oregon Trail at least 8 times. EFSC has done a reasonable job of protecting the Trail during construction and operation, if the proposed requirements are followed, **except at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center at Flagstaff Hill.**

The B2H Transmission Line should be buried for approximately 2 to 2 ½ miles to comply with the exhibits indicated above. Idaho Power has from the early years refused to do any significant analysis for this option. IPC uses cost as the reason for stating that undergrounding is not feasible. Cost is not a specific standard, and costs are the responsibility of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission during rate considerations. EFSC has determined that IPC has the Financial ability even if some partners choose to not participate, so reasonable cost should not be a determining factor for EFSC.

**EFSC should refuse to approve the Draft Project Order for the following reasons:**

1. Does not comply with Noise Standards as no measurements were done at the Oregon Trail viewpoint or walking trails endpoint near milepost 146. Perhaps not a "Noise Sensitive Property," in the context of residential sleeping areas; however, certainly for tourists and visitors to the Interpretive Center and hiking trails noise will be disturbing. Map 23 in Attachment X-1 does not even show the Oregon Trail.
2. Within OAR 345-022-0040 Protected Areas and ODEQ standards 340-035-0000-0100, this area should have been monitored and modeled as a Noise Sensitive Property and was not.
3. Does not comply with Scenic Values from the Blue Mountains Parkway and Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. The OR 86 encourages drivers to STOP and read interpretive signs, so viewer perception and resource change cause significant decrease of scenic values. IPC says no significant impact.

4. The DPO does not comply with Exhibit L Protected Areas. The BLM ACEC at Flagstaff Hill has not considered undergrounding for the protection of the Oregon Trail. No analysis found the pristine, Class 1 swales of the Oregon Trail within the ACEC located at: Lat 44.813762 Long -117.750194 or 44° 48' 48.26"N 117° 75' 57.97"W. IPC proposes to build a new constructed road over the Oregon Trail in the area identified in the location above.
5. The DPO does not meet the standards required for Exhibit T Recreational Facilities, OAR 345-022-0100, especially at the Flagstaff Hill interpretive center, because of:
  - a. It is a BLM ACEC area managed for public tourism
  - b. It is the single most visited tourist facility in Baker County
  - c. The quality of the facility is outstanding
  - d. There is no other place where the Oregon Trail can be seen and interpreted.
6. The cost estimates of IPC do not compare with those of the *Edison Electric Institute*, January 2013 publication "Out of Sight, Out of Mind, An Updated Study of the Undergrounding of Power Lines." This article suggests that for 2.5 miles of rural undergrounding, the cost will be \$67,500,000. This is almost half the IPC estimate.

The Oregon Trail along the route of the B2H has the most damaging effects to its critical historic elements. Once the Trail is gone it cannot be reconstructed or mitigated back to life. Once gone, always gone. The only easily accessible public facility in Oregon is the Flagstaff Hill Interpretive Center near Baker City. The B2H must be buried to preserve this important site.

Considering the reasons above and the unconscionable desecration of our national treasure, the Council Must Deny the site certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission project.

Thank you,



Signature

Printed Name: Jennifer M Albright

Mailing Address: 1206 Broadway Street, Baker City, OR 97814-2951

Email: albright.jenny@gmail.com



August 12, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Via E-MAIL: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project  
9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019

To: Chairmen Beyeler and Members of the Council

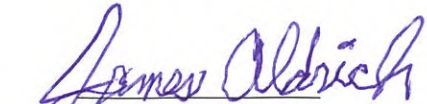
I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Project Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project. I am very supportive of the Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA) and the work that they have done to protect the Oregon Trail, especially here in Oregon. OCTA is mentioned numerous times in **Exhibit S** and the **Historic Properties Management Plan and Programmatic Agreement**. OCTA does NOT believe that Exhibit S Historic Properties Management Plan is complete in 7.2.3 Field Crew, and offers this additional condition.

**ADDITIONAL CONDITION #1** OCTA recommends that the Council add an Oregon Trail expert to the Cultural Resource Team. This Oregon Trail individual will have qualifications similar to Field crew members. For example, they will have an undergraduate degree in anthropology, archaeology, or in a field such as geology, engineering or history. It will not be necessary to have attended a field school. This individual will be recommended by the National OCTA President and agreed to by the Field Director.

The field surveys, even with SHPO and NPS data, have missed and/or mislabeled some sections of the emigrant trail. OCTA wants the public to know where the Trails are and I do too! OCTA over the years has marked the trail location with wooden signs, small triangles attached to trees, and more recently, carbonite posts and steel rails. Most private property owners are proud of the trail on their property, and after obtaining permission allow the public to walk and hike on the trail.

Idaho Power and their consultants have not acknowledged trail crossings shown on submitted Maps and do not acknowledge visual intrusion of the line for 10 miles per standards, and only upon ODOE's RAI's, put into documents some trail protections. This has been consistent from the BLM process to current day.

Considering the points above, Idaho Power does not comply with the state standards for cultural resources OAR 354-022-0090, or 345-022-0080, Scenic resources. **EFSC Must Deny the Site Certificate!**



Signature

Printed name:

Mailing address:

807 Main St.

La Grande OR

Email address:

phone number: (optional)

978 50

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Dale Mammen <dmammen@eoni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 5:53 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019  
**Attachments:** Scan 2019-8-15 17.38.19.pdf

To: Chairman Beyeler and Members of the Council

Find attached a letter signed by me and 54 other residents of La Grande expressing our concerns regarding the B2H Project and we request that EFSC deny the Site Certificate.

I have also sent a bound copy of this material by the US Postal Service.

Sincerely,

Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon 97850

August 10, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018:Draft Proposed Order.

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

My comment is about the usage of the "Local Streets" <sup>1</sup> specifically the Modelaire-Hawthorne Loop) <sup>2</sup>, hereafter referred to as the "loop", of La Grande to access the site entrance. This residential "loop" was constructed without sidewalks for a new development around the early 1960s.

According to OAR 345-022-0110, Public Services (pg. 5. April 2017) "The applicant...must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic, safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools." <sup>3</sup>

My impression from reviewing the application Page 17 <sup>4</sup> is that the applicant has not fully examined the final portion of the intended route nor does it fully recognize or address the need for traffic mitigation. This "loop" is the only access to/from thirty-six houses to the rest of the city. The area to the north of the "loop" is occupied by the Grande Ronde Hospital and Medical Clinic. Two blocks to the east is located the local high school and a grade school. <sup>2</sup>

In June of 2016, the Grande Ronde Hospital petitioned the City to have a conditional use for a parking lot expansion project next to Hawthorne. The Conditional Use Permit was approved subject to the Condition of Approval that "No driveway access to GRH parking lot areas shall be permitted onto Hawthorn Drive as such street is developed to residential standards and is not designed to support commercial traffic." <sup>5</sup>



The La Grande Director of Public Works, Kyle Carpenter, provided information regarding the widths for the streets in question. The two streets range from 33 feet to 37 feet in width with no sidewalks. I personally measured the area where the unpaved stem of Hawthorne leaves the "loop" to go up the hill. At the junction it measures 32 feet curb cut to curb cut and narrows to 18-21 feet in width as it goes around the corner up the hill. 6 The Public Works Director also provided pictures of the mapping system showing the existing utilities located in the "loop". 7-8. It should also be noted that from the entrance to the "loop" at Sunset Drive to the entrance of the site the road has a 16% grade.

Attachment U2 9 from the application shows an "Aerial Lift Crane to be Used During Construction" and the Transportation and Traffic Plan on page 19 10 lists a number of other vehicles anticipated to be used. Article 6.6 — Public Street Standards for the City of La Grande Section 6.6.002 states that "Collector Streets are designed to withstand normal trucks of an HS20 loading. Larger trucks are to utilize Arterial Streets where at all possible." 11 The majority of vehicles listed on page 19 exceed that limit and would be using a Local Street in addition to Arterial and Collector Streets. According to the Public Works Director the two streets in the "loop" were designed as Local Streets for residential use, able to accept the pressures of HS20 for the purpose of an occasional need such as a weekly garbage truck or an emergency vehicle but for no more than 5% of the time. The paving construction of these over 50 year old streets in the "loop" was not designed for repetitive use by vehicles heavier than a normal car. These streets in the "loop" have not been repaved, only patched when necessary, since they were first constructed.

The application does not address the "loop" specifically, but 3.1.2 (pg. 19) 10 and Table 6 (pg.17) 12 of the Transportation and Traffic Plan indicate there would be numerous vehicles using this route. Not knowing exactly just which vehicles would be on the "loop" daily but making a conservative estimate of 50 round trips (100 single) it would be a constant parade with one truck every 7.2 minutes. This is unacceptable for numerous reasons including constant excessive noise.

Not only would weight of the vehicles be a problem but the narrowness of the "loop" streets and the ninety degree blind curves that would have to be executed would be either impossible or extremely dangerous considering the turning radius for many of these large vehicles. The

already dangerous situation for a number of driveways that exit onto these "loop" streets at blind curves would be exacerbated. 13-14

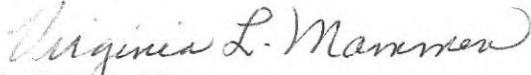
When considering only the traffic and safety issues listed above, the use of the "loop" as a part of the route for Idaho Power seems to be not only dangerous for the residents but unconscionable and irresponsible for Idaho Power to use such streets that are currently primarily for the neighborhood for walking (children to school, all ages for physical training), driving, or biking. I fear there are standards that are either not being considered or they are intentionally being ignored. There should be some common sense, courtesy and respect for the impact this project would impose on any neighborhood.

Finally, La Grande Ordinance Number 3077, which adopted Oregon State Traffic Laws by reference, states in Section 17 page 8 "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use, drive or operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight of 26,000, pounds or more upon any street of the City of La Grande, Oregon, except upon posted truck routes." Neither Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop nor Sunset Drive are posted as truck routes. 15-16

A site review and traffic plan must be completed prior to the cite certificate being issued and not 90 days prior to construction as stated.

For the above reasons I oppose the usage of the proposed route for the construction of the B2H transmission line.

Sincerely,

  
Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon. 97850

gmammen@eoni.com



**TABLE 1  
 STREET STANDARDS**

Functional Classification	ADT Volume	Speed (mph)	# of Travel Lanes	Travel Lane Width	Turn Lane or Median Width	Bike Lanes	Min. Bike Lane Width	On-Street parking
Downtown Arterial	10,000	20	2-3	11'	11'			both sides
Arterial	10,000	40-55	2-5	12'	4-14'	optional <sup>4</sup>	5'	none
Major Collector	2,000 - 10,000	25-45	2-3	11'	12'	required	5'	one or both sides
Minor Collector	1,000 - 2,000	25-35	2	11'	none	Optional <sup>5</sup>	5'	one or both sides
Local Street	0 - 1,000	15-25	2	10'	none	none	none	one or both sides

Functional Classification	Sidewalks	Min. Sidewalk Width	Planting Strip Width <sup>1</sup>	Total Paved Width <sup>2</sup>	Total ROW Width <sup>3</sup>	Private Access Spacing
Downtown Arterial	required	12'	3'6" <sup>6</sup>	49'	80'	200'
Arterial	required	5'	8'	36'-72'	80'-102'	200' - 400'
Major Collector	required	5'	8'	52'-60'	62'-90'	150' - 300'
Minor Collector	required	5'	8'	30'-48'	60'-78'	75' - 150'
Local Street	required	5'	8'	28'-36'	40'-66'	Each Lot

<sup>1</sup>A portion of the required planting strip width may be used instead as additional sidewalk width or reduced right of way, as appropriate.

<sup>2</sup>The minimum of the paved width was calculated with the following assumptions:

Arterials: Two (2) travel lanes, four foot (4') median divider, no center turn lane, no bike lanes.

Major Collectors: Two (2) travel lanes, two (2) bike lanes, no center turn lane, parking on one (1) side.

Minor Collectors: Two (2) travel lanes, parking on one (1) side of street, no bike lanes.

Local Streets: Two (2) travel lanes, parking on one (1) side of street.

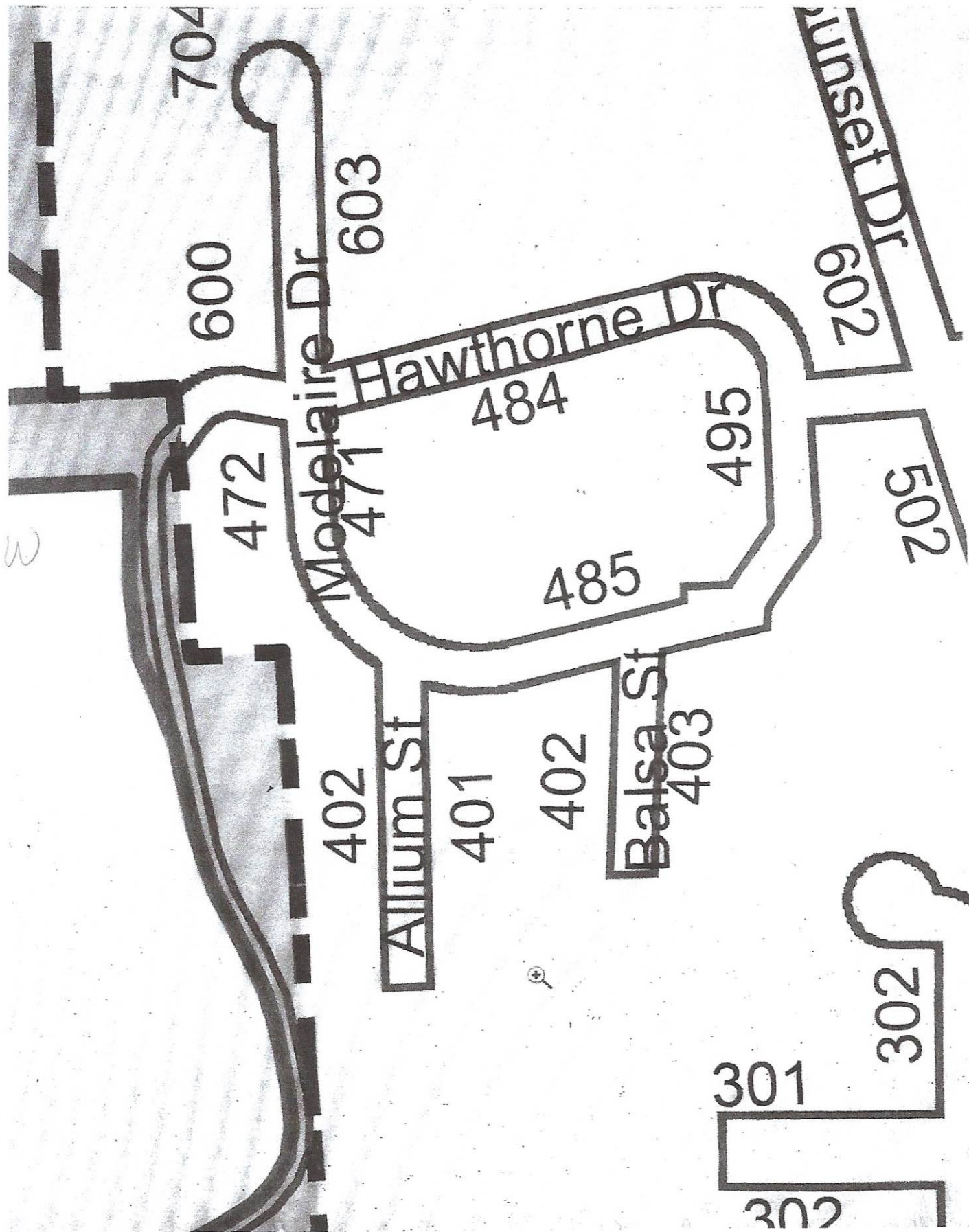
The maximum paved width for each street was calculated assuming the inclusion of all required and optional facilities. Minimum paved widths for each street are as required in Section 6.2.005 of this Code.

<sup>3</sup>These right-of-way width ranges are for new streets.

<sup>4</sup>Bike lanes should be provided on Arterials unless more desirable parallel facilities are designated and designed to accommodate bicycles.

<sup>5</sup> Bike lanes should be provided on Minor Collectors where traffic volumes or other factors warrant. Otherwise, Minor Collectors should be designed and designated as shared roadway facilities with wide outside travel lanes of 14' on important bike routes.

N



5



## Public Services

### OAR 345-022-0110

This standard ensures that the proposed facility will not affect the ability of service providers in local communities to provide public services, such as fire protection or education. The applicant must assess the proposed facility's need for water and for disposal of wastewater, storm water and solid waste. The applicant must also evaluate the expected population increases in local communities resulting from construction and operation of the facility; and must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools. The Council must determine whether the applicant has identified potential adverse impacts to service providers and proposed adequate mitigation to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effect on the ability of a service provider to provide services. In considering the impacts, the Council solicits comments from affected local governments, fire or police departments, school districts and health care agencies.

## Waste Minimization

### OAR 345-022-0120

This standard requires the Council to evaluate the applicant's proposal to minimize solid waste and wastewater generated by construction and operation of the proposed facility. The standard requires recycling of wastes, if feasible, or proper waste disposal if recycling is not feasible.

The applicant must evaluate the types of waste products that would be produced during construction and operation of the proposed facility and estimate the amounts or volume of waste products. The applicant must propose appropriate methods to handle the waste through collection, storage and disposal. Compliance with the standard assures that the applicant will reduce the amount of waste generated and dispose of waste in a responsible manner.

## Need for a Facility

### OAR 345-023-0005

This standard requires the applicant for non-generating energy facilities (such as electric transmission lines) to demonstrate the need for the proposed facility. The Council's rules allow an applicant to demonstrate need for a non-generating facility through one of several methods, including the "Least-Cost Plan Rule" (OAR 345-023-0020) or the "System Reliability Rule for Electric Transmission Lines" (OAR 345-023-0030). Under the Least-Cost Plan Rule, the applicant meets this standard if the proposed transmission line was included in an Integrated Resource Plan that has been acknowledged by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC). More information about the OPUC and the Integrated Resource Plan acknowledgement process can be found at [www.puc.state.or.us](http://www.puc.state.or.us).

## Specific Standards for Wind Facilities

### OAR 345-024-0010 and 345-024-0015

This standard requires the Council to evaluate applications for wind energy facilities to ensure that applicants can design, construct and operate the facility so that the public is not endangered by moving turbine blades or electrical equipment, and that the applicant can design, construct and operate wind turbines to prevent structural failure that could endanger public safety. Siting standards for wind facilities also require the applicant to reduce cumulative adverse environmental effects in the vicinity by using existing roads, if possible, placing collection lines underground, designing the facility to avoid impacts to vulnerable wildlife in the area (especially birds and bats), and designing the facility to minimize adverse visual features, including using the minimum amount of lighting necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration for protecting aircraft.

## Specific Standards for Transmission Lines

### OAR 345-024-0090

This standard requires that the Council evaluate transmission lines under Council jurisdiction to ensure they are designed, constructed and operated to limit the strength of electromagnetic fields in areas where those lines are accessible to the public.





Idaho Power Responses to Comments and Requests for Additional Information on the B2H APASC  
from the City of La Grande  
Compiled by ODOE. RAI's from the City of La Grande and Responses from IPC

U	U- Public Services include utilities such as road systems, water, sanitation services, power, and other amenities necessary for the construction.	Ordinance #2912, Series 1997 gives the City jurisdiction and control on all City street rights-of-way and Ordinance #3077, Series 2009, establishes the process and requirements for permits and licenses for uses of the streets that are not normal uses and may result in damages.	proposed helipad is a necessary supporting facility.	<p>To address the City's concerns regarding traffic and road use within the city's limits, Idaho Power has added the following proposed conditions to Exhibit K:</p> <p><i>Land Use Condition 9: Prior to construction in Union County, the site certificate holder shall complete the following to address traffic impacts in the county:</i></p> <p><i>a. The site certificate holder shall finalize, and submit to the department for its approval, a final county-specific transportation and traffic plan. The protective measures described in the draft Transportation and Traffic Plan in ASG Exhibit U, Attachment U-2, shall be included and implemented as part of the final county-specific plan, unless otherwise approved by the department;</i></p> <p><i>b. The site certificate holder shall work with the Union County Road Department and the City of La Grande Public Works Department to identify concerns related to Project construction traffic; and</i></p> <p><i>c. The site certificate holder shall develop traffic control measures to mitigate the effects of Project construction traffic.</i></p> <p><i>Land Use Condition 26: During construction in Union County, the site certificate holder shall conduct all work in compliance with the Union County-specific</i></p>
---	---	---	--	---

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the Findings of Fact above, the Planning Commission concludes that the application meets the requirements established in LDC Articles 8.5 and other applicable codes and Ordinances.

#### V. ORDER AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Based on the conclusions above, the Planning Commission approves the Conditional Use Permit as requested, subject to the following Conditions of Approval:

1. No driveway access to GRH parking lot areas shall be permitted onto Hawthorn Drive as such street is developed to a residential standards and is not designed to support commercial traffic.
2. Any existing driveway curb cuts along Hawthorn Drive bordering GRH's property, that are not used for residential purposes, shall be removed and replaced with City standard improvements that exists adjacent to such areas.
3. There is a storm sewer line extending through the project area that shall to be protected. Any improvements that may affect the storm sewer line shall be reviewed and approved by the Public Works Director.

#### VI. STANDARD CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR LAND USE APPLICATIONS

1. **Revisions to a Valid Conditional Use Permit:** Any variations, alterations, or changes in a valid Conditional Use Permit requested by the deed holder shall be considered in accordance with the procedures of the Land Development Code as though a new Conditional Use Permit were being applied for.
2. **Public Works Standards:** Where a development involves work within the public right-of-way, a Right-of-Way Permit shall be obtained from the Public Works Department in advance of commencing with any work in the right-of-way. All improvements within the public right-of-way shall be in conformance with the most recent adopted City of La Grande *"Engineering Standard Drawings and Specifications for Construction Manual."*
3. **Building Permits:** The City of La Grande Building Department shall be contacted early in the process and in advance of development to coordinate and obtain required building, plumbing, electrical and/or mechanical permits. All required permits shall be acquired in advance of construction.

#### VI. OTHER PERMITS AND RESTRICTIONS

The applicant and property owner is herein advised that the use of the property involved in this application may require additional permits from the City of La Grande or other local, State or Federal Agencies.

The City of La Grande land use review, approval process and any decision issued does not take the place of, or relieve the applicant of responsibility for acquiring such other permits, or satisfy any restrictions or conditions thereon. The land use decision herein does not remove, alter, or impair in any way the covenants or restrictions imposed on this property by deed or other instrument.

The land use approvals granted by this decision shall be effective only when the rights granted herein have been exercised and commenced within one (1) year of the effective date of the decision. In case such right has not been exercised and commenced or an extension obtained, the approvals granted by this decision shall become null and void. A written request for an extension of time shall be filed with the Planning Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the approval.





Virginia Mammen &lt;4gmammen@gmail.com&gt;

**Modelaire Roadway Specifications**

3 messages

**Kyle Carpenter** <KCarpenter@cityoflagrande.org>  
To: "gmammen@eoni.com" <gmammen@eoni.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2019 at 1:51 PM

I have attached a couple pictures of our mapping system that will give you a sense of where existing utilities are in Modelaire and Hawthorne. As for the widths of the roadways, I took measurements in multiple places, and found the following:

- Modelaire Drive (F Avenue) between Sunset Blvd and Hawthorne Drive is approximately 33 feet wide with a grade of about 5 Percent.
- Hawthorne Drive is approximately 32 feet wide at the bottom near the intersection of Modelaire/F Avenue and widens to about 34 feet where it intersects Modelaire at the top of the hill. The grade heading up hill is approximately 15.5 Percent.
- Modelaire Drive is generally 36 feet wide with some minor variability generally less than a foot (35' to 37'). On the southernmost segment of the roadway where the majority of the elevation gain is observed the grade is approximately 16 Percent.

Let me know if there are any other specifications of these roadways that you are interested in that I have missed. Have a great weekend and thanks for the treats, the guys were very appreciative.

*Kyle Carpenter, PE*

**Public Works Director**

**City of La Grande**

**Public Works**

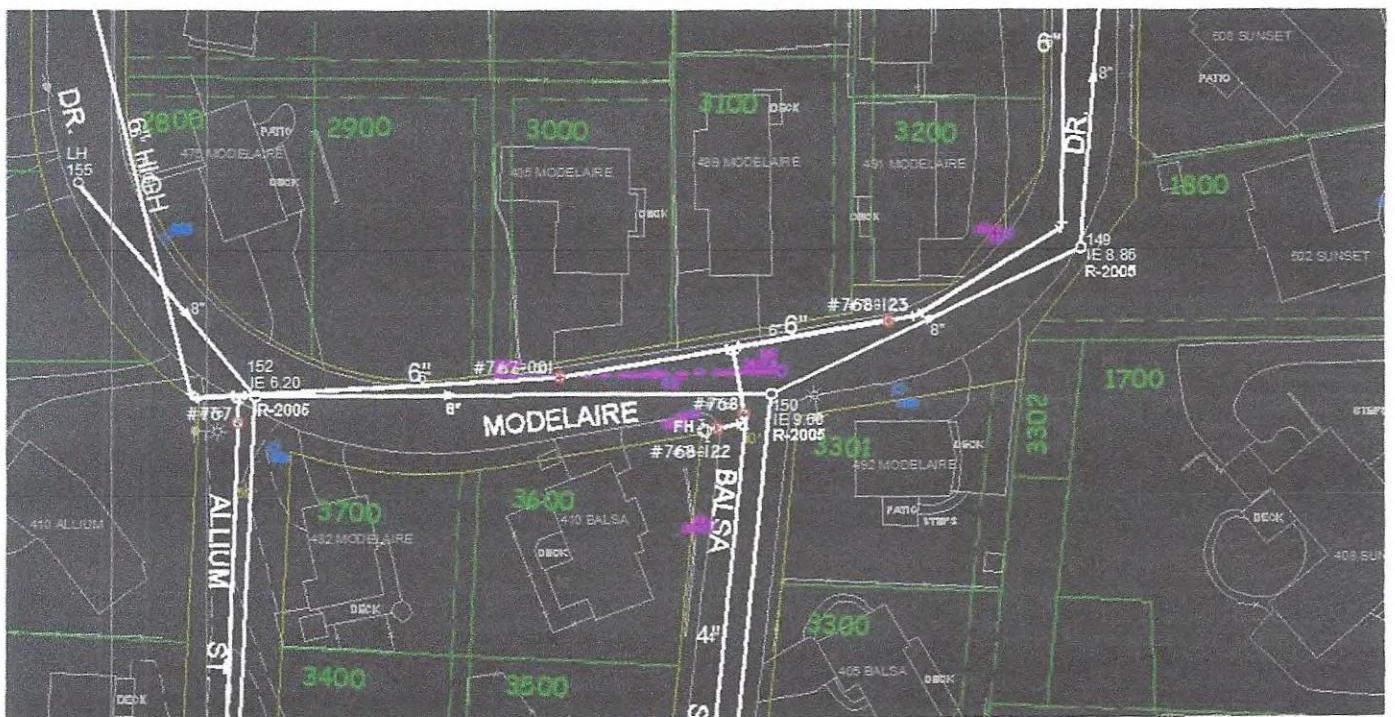
Ph: (541) 962-1325

Fax: (541) 963-4844

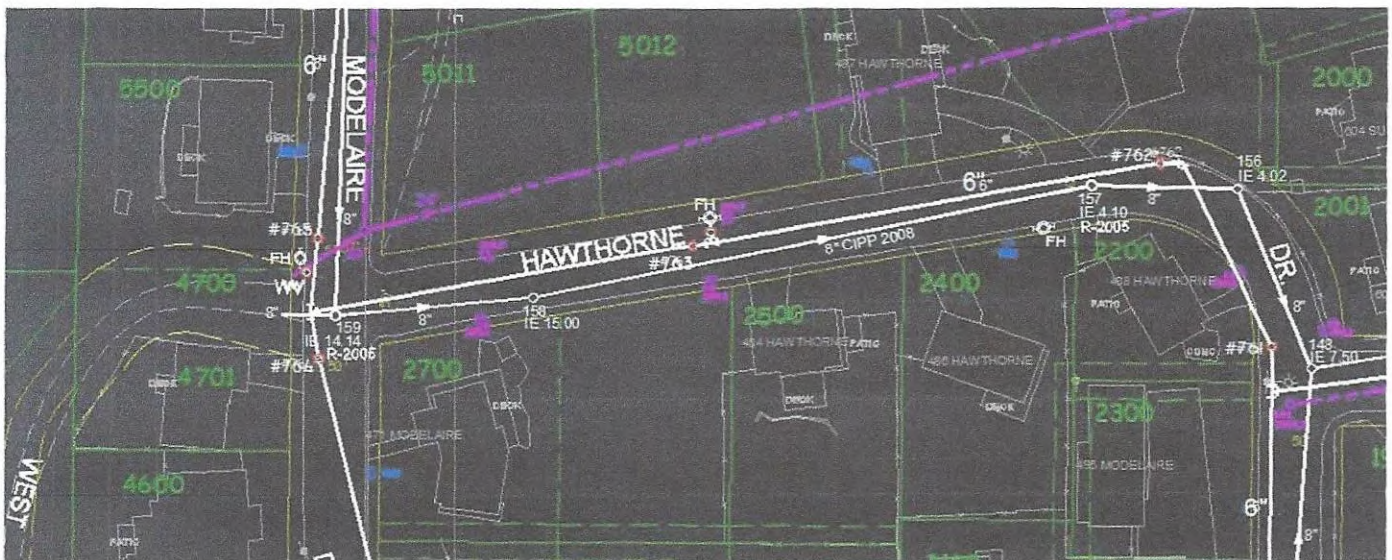
**2 attachments**

**Hawthorne.jpg**  
150K

**Modelaire.jpg**  
120K







attachment U2

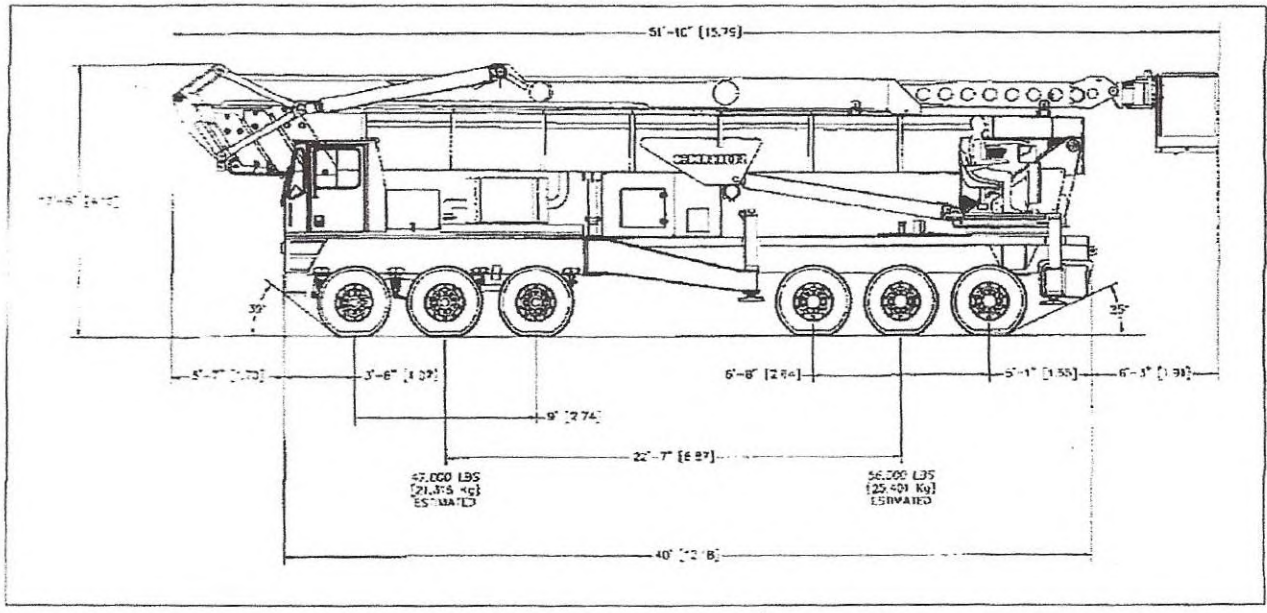


Figure 2. Example Aerial Lift Crane to be Used During Construction (Roadable Length 52 Feet; Width 8 Feet 6 Inches)



The following is a summary of anticipated equipment to be used for each transmission-line construction activity.

- Survey work: pickup trucks or ATVs.
- Timber removal: pickup trucks, feller bunchers, dump trucks, wood chippers.
- Road construction: pickup trucks, bulldozers, motor graders, and water trucks.
- Hole digging, installation of directly embedded structures, or foundation installation: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, digger derrick trucks, hole diggers, bulldozers, concrete trucks, water trucks, cranes, hydro cranes, wagon rock drills, dump trucks, and front-end loaders.
- Hauling lattice steel members, tubular poles, braces, and hardware to the structure sites: steel haul trucks, carry alls, cranes, and forklifts.
- Assembly and erection of structures: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, carry alls, cranes, and a heavy lift helicopter.
- Wire installation: pickups, wire reel trailers, diesel tractors, cranes, 5-ton boom trucks, splicing trucks, three drum pullers, single drum pullers, tensioner, sagging dozers, carry-alls, static wire reel trailers, bucket trucks, and a light duty helicopter.
- Final cleanup, reclamation, and restoration: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, bulldozers, motor graders, dump trucks, front-end loaders, hydro-seed truck, and water trucks.

The highest level of traffic will be when the wire stringing operations begin while several other operations are occurring at the same time, which will likely include ROW clearing, installing foundations, hauling steel, and assembling and erecting structures. For the station work, the highest level of traffic will be during site grading and foundation installation. For the communication station sites, the highest level of traffic will be during grading and site preparation.

Detailed estimates of trips generated by transporting Project construction equipment will be provided by the construction contractor prior to construction.

### **3.1.3 Traffic Related to Timber Removal**

In forested areas, the Project will require removal of timber from the Project ROW and for construction and improvement of access roads. Specific timber harvest plans have not been finalized. Logs from timber clearing may be transported to nearby sawmills. Decisions regarding transportation routes for harvested timber will be made following completion of a timber harvest plan, and the number of log truck trips will be estimated when the timber harvest plan has been finalized. Logging slash will remain onsite if possible. For additional discussion regarding removal of timber in forested areas, see Exhibit K, Attachment K-2, ROW Clearing Assessment.

### **3.1.4 Impacts to V/C Ratios**

Based on the estimated trip generation numbers in Tables 4 and 6, a maximum of approximately 1,294 daily one-way vehicle trips are expected within any one construction spread. To facilitate traffic and other analyses, the two construction spreads are divided into smaller sections based on similar construction windows and seasonal weather restrictions. Not all construction sections will have the same number of concurrent construction activities, depending on how the construction contractor sequences and executes the Project. Some sections will have fewer daily vehicle trips. For the purposes of the traffic analysis, the spreads are divided into five sections with multi-use areas that could have additive traffic impacts. The sections are assumed to have approximately equal levels of activity. The 1,294 daily one-way trips per spread divided over five sections of more concentrated traffic results in 259 daily one-



## **ARTICLE 6.6 – PUBLIC STREET STANDARDS**

### **SECTION 6.6.001 - PURPOSE**

Upon the request of the La Grande City Council, a variety of street design standards have been reviewed and are now incorporated in the Land Development Code.

### **SECTION 6.6.002 - CLASS I IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS**

This classification will cover those streets that are designed to meet the standards for an expected life of twenty (20) years or more. The attached drawings shall be the minimum standard for those streets in this classification. All streets designated as Federal Aid Urban Streets (F.A.U.) shall be constructed under these design standards. Streets in this designation shall be constructed with sidewalks when at all possible in an effort to increase pedestrian safety. Collector streets are designed to withstand normal trucks of an HS 20 loading. Larger trucks are to utilize Arterial streets where at all possible. This level of development shall be the ultimate goal for all streets within the City of La Grande.

Possible means of financing available for this Class shall be methods A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H in Section 6.6.006.

#### **A. Advantages**

1. The construction life is extended to a period above other City standards.
2. The visible aesthetics in relationship to having curbs and a blacktop surface with landscaping or concrete driveways and a sidewalk is generally appealing to the public.
3. Easy maintenance for the Public Works Department for cleaning and minor repair.
4. Storm sewer drainage is confined within the bounds of the curbs during minor flooding periods.
5. Parking is restricted to a solid barrier, that being the curb; this restricts parking in the area on the back side of the curb and confines travel to the street surface.
6. Defined areas for possible cross walks, signs, power poles, and other utilities that are restricted to the outside areas behind the curbs.
7. It allows for a wide range of financing methods and is to City standards for a ten (10) year Bancroft bonding.
8. Provides a dust free surface.

#### **B. Disadvantages**

1. The extreme high level of cost that is incurred with this type of development.

### **SECTION 6.6.003 - CLASS II IMPROVEMENT LEVEL**

Streets constructed in this classification shall be constructed to the same standards as Class I Streets with the exception of the form of drainage system. These streets shall meet the standards as shown on the attached drawing. This level of construction shall be only utilized in substitution for Class I Streets when it is determined by the City Council at the recommendation of the City Engineer or Engineering Superintendent, that an adequate drainage system cannot be installed for a Class I Street.

Table 6. Construction Vehicle Trips per Day per Construction Spread

Construction Crew Type	Construction Vehicles					
	Light Construction Vehicles			Heavy Construction Vehicles		
	Number of Pickups/ Mechanic Trucks (per day)	Number of One-way Trips on Public Roads (per day)	Total One-way Trips (per day)	Number of Other Vehicles	Number of One-way Trips on Public Roads (per day)	Total One-way Trips (per day)
Substation Construction	20	2	40	5	2	10
ROW Clearing	9	4	36	5	4	20
Roads/ Pad Grading	9	4	36	9	2	18
Foundations	9	2	18	5	8	40
Tower Lacing (assembly)	27	2	54	0	0	0
Tower Setting (erection)	20	2	40	0	0	0
Wire Stringing	9	4	36	9	4	36
Restoration	3	2	6	0	0	0
Blasting	5	4	20	0	0	0
Material Delivery	20	8	160	12	2	24
Mechanic and Equipment Mgmt.	5	6	30	0	0	0
Refueling	0	0	0	5	4	20
Dust Control	0	0	0	5	4	20
Construction Inspection	5	8	40	0	0	0
Concrete Testing	5	4	20	0	0	0
Environmental Compliance	9	6	54	0	0	0
Surveyors	5	3	30	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	—	—	<b>620</b>	—	—	<b>188</b>

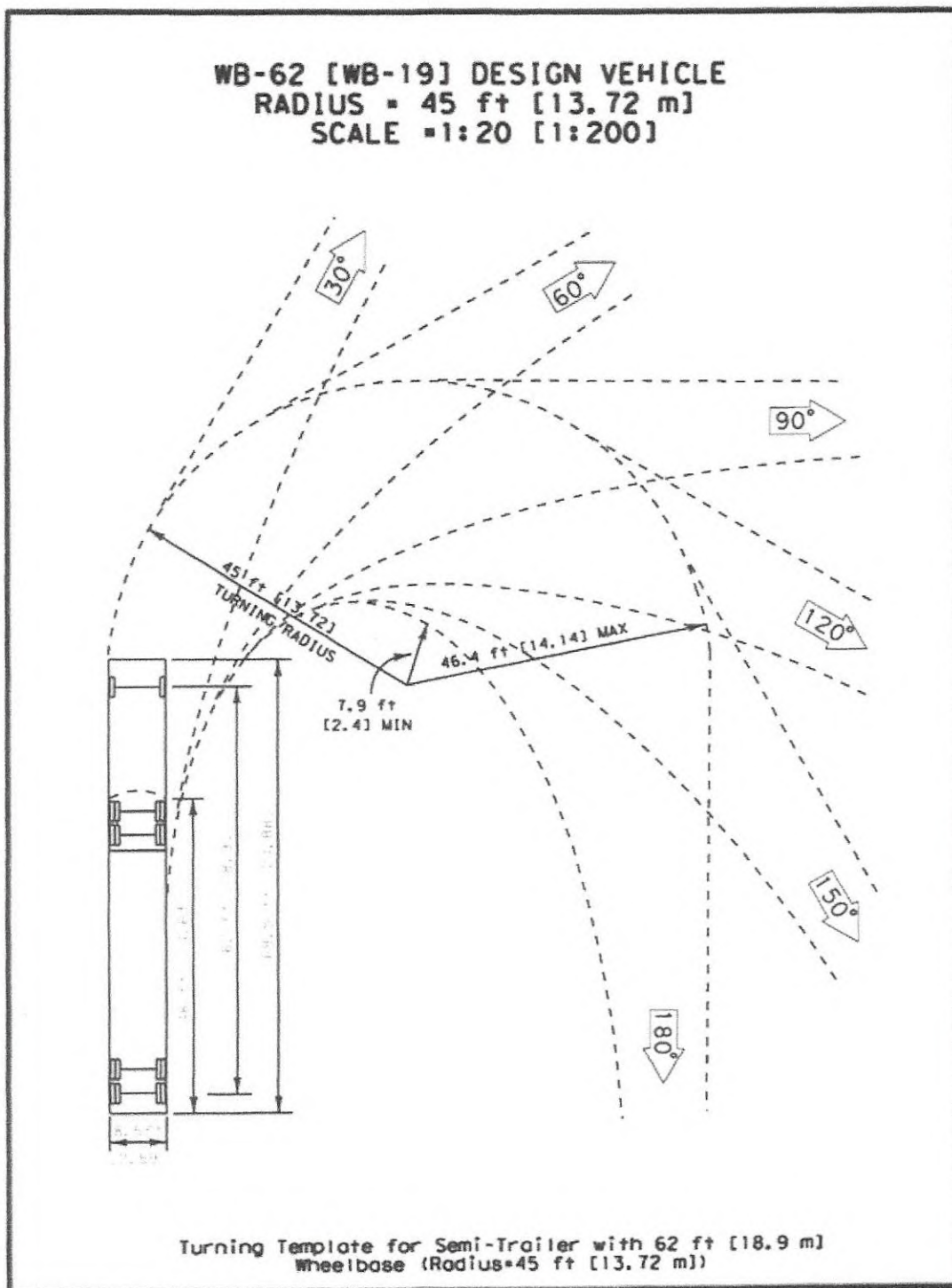
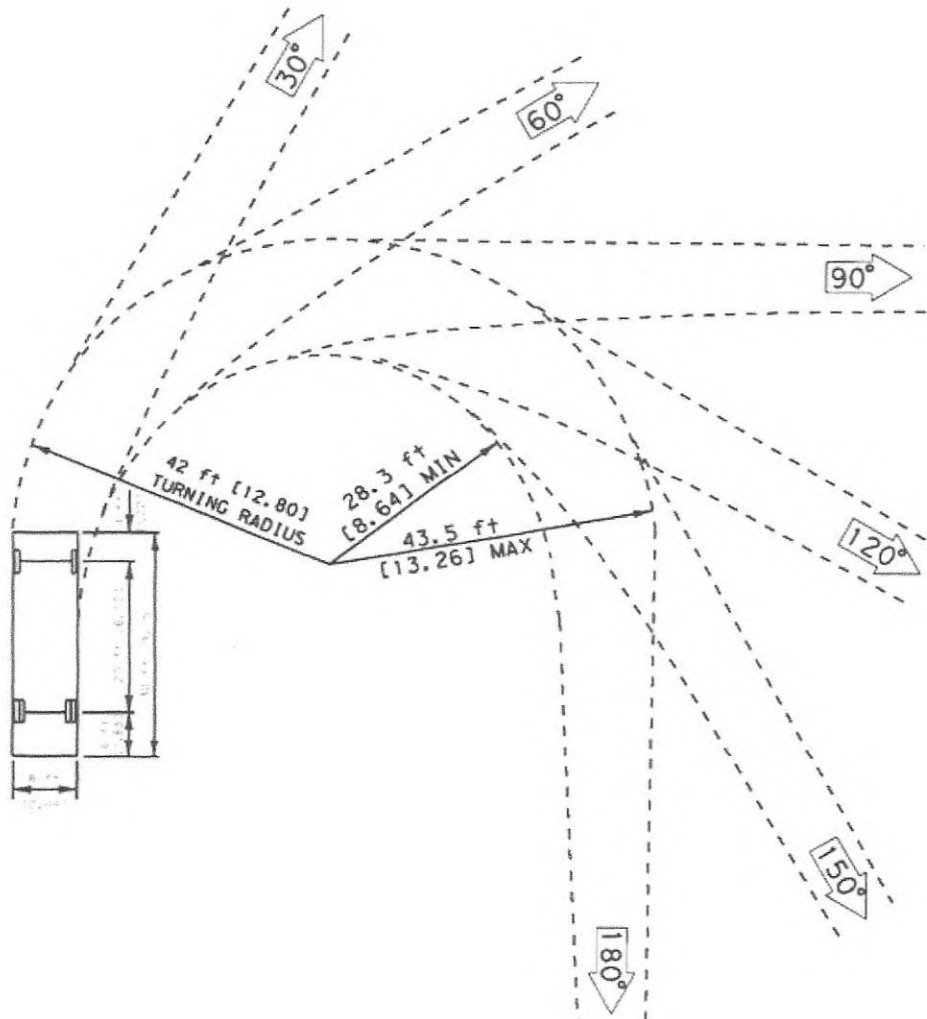


Figure 7-4. Turning Template for Semi-Trailer with 62 ft [18.9 m] Wheelbase, (not to scale). Click [here](#) to see a PDF of the image.



**SINGLE UNIT (SU) TRUCK DESIGN VEHICLE**  
**TURNING RADIUS = 42 ft [12.80 m]**  
**SCALE = 1:20 [1:200]**



Turning Template for Single Unit Trucks or Buses

Exhibit 15

**CITY OF LA GRANDE  
ORDINANCE NUMBER 3077  
SERIES 2009**

**AN ORDINANCE CONTROLLING VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC, PARADES  
AND PROCESSIONS AND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS; PROVIDING PENALTIES; AND  
REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2845, SERIES 1993; ALL AMENDING ORDINANCES  
AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith;  
AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

THE CITY OF LA GRANDE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** This Ordinance may be cited as the City of La Grande Uniform Traffic Ordinance.

**Section 2.** APPLICABILITY OF STATE TRAFFIC LAWS.

Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 153, and the Oregon Vehicle Code, ORS Chapter 801 and 822, as now constituted, are adopted by reference. Violation of an adopted provision of those chapters is an offense against the City.

**Section 3.** DEFINITIONS

In addition to those definitions contained in the Oregon state Motor Vehicle Code, the following words or phrases, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning, shall mean:

a. Alley

A street or highway primarily intended to provide access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban areas and not intended for through vehicular traffic.

b. Bicycle

A bicycle is a vehicle that:

1. Is designed to be operated on the ground on wheels;
2. has a seat or saddle for use of the rider;
3. is designed to travel with not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground;
4. is propelled exclusively by human power; and,
5. has every wheel more than fourteen inches (14") in diameter or two (2) tandem wheels, either of which is more than fourteen inches (14") in diameter.

c. Bicycle Lane

That part of the highway, adjacent to the roadway, designated by official signs or markings for use by persons riding bicycles, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

d. Bicycle Path

A public way, not part of a highway, which is designated by official signs or markings for use by persons riding bicycles, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

e. Block

The part of one side of a street lying between the two (2) nearest cross streets.

f. Central Business District



a. City Regulation of Special Movement of Oversized Load

The applicant shall submit an application to the City Manager or designee, showing the terminal points of the purported movement; the proposed route; the nature of the movement requested, including the weight and dimensions of the vehicle, load, machine, building, or structure to be moved; the time, date and duration of the proposed movement.

b. Special Movement Permit

A permit shall be required to move any vehicle, structure, or load on, or to access a street when, after preparation for movement, the vehicle, structure or load exceeds fourteen feet (14') in height, requires the use of guy wires, or could result in the blockage of a street. An approved application may serve as a permit, and a copy of the approved application shall be provided to the applicant.

**Section 17. TRUCK ROUTES**

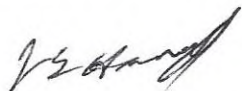
- a. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use, drive or operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight of 26,000, pounds or more upon any street of the City of La Grande, Oregon, except upon posted truck routes.
- b. Any vehicle with a gross weight over 26,000, pounds specifically picking up deliveries or making deliveries to any business or residence located on a street that is not a truck route will be exempted if the vehicle is driven from the truck route to the destination in the shortest, most direct, and safest route.
- c. The use of Jacob brakes shall not be allowed within the city limits of La Grande, Oregon.
- d. Truck routes will be posted as follows:
  1. Walnut street north from the city limits to C Avenue;
  2. C Avenue east from Walnut Street to Gekeler Avenue;
  3. Gekeler Avenue east to the city limits;
  4. 12th street south from Gekeler Avenue to the city limits;
  5. 2nd Street south from the city limits to Adams Avenue;
  6. Monroe Avenue east from Spruce Street to Highway 82;
  7. Jackson Avenue east from Spruce Street, and
  8. Spruce Street south from the city limits to Monroe.

**Section 18. IMPOUNDMENT AND DETENTION OF VEHICLES**

- a. Whenever a vehicle is placed in a manner or location that constitutes an obstruction to traffic or a hazard to public safety, a police officer or enforcement officer shall order the owner or operator of the vehicle to remove said vehicle. If the vehicle is unattended, the officer or enforcement officer may cause the vehicle to be towed and stored at the owner's expense. The owner shall be liable for the costs of towing and storing, notwithstanding that the vehicle was parked by another or that the vehicle was initially parked in a safe manner but subsequently became an obstruction or hazard.

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

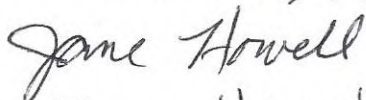


PRINTED NAME James E. Howell II

ADDRESS 482 Modelaire Dr

EMAIL jhowell12@frontier.com

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME Jane Howell

ADDRESS 482 Modelaire DR

EMAIL d.janehowell@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

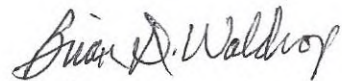


PRINTED NAME Lisa Waldrop

ADDRESS 475 Modelaire Dr.

EMAIL ldjw62@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

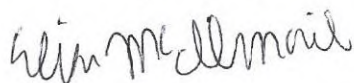


PRINTED NAME BRIAN D. WALDROP

ADDRESS 475 MODELAIRE DR.

EMAIL bdwaldrop58@gmail.com

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME EUSE McILMAIL

ADDRESS 476 MODELAIRE DR.

EMAIL mcilmail154@hotmail.com




I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

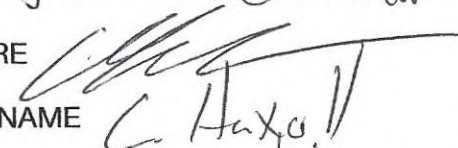
  
Jessie Huxell  
472 Modelaire Dr. LaGrande OR 97850

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

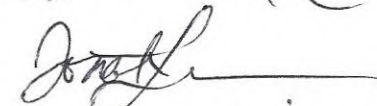
  
C. Huxell  
472 Modelaire Dr. LG, OR 97850  
CHRIS Huxell @ EMAIL. Com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

  
Jonah Lindeman  
702 Modelaire LaGrande  
jlindeman@rpi.ag

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

Marie Skinner  
Marie Skinner  
208 3rd LaGrande  
marieskinner@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

Blake Bars  
Blake Bars  
1101 G Ave La Grande  
blakebars@gmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

*D. Dale Mammen*

PRINTED NAME

D. Dale Mammen

ADDRESS

405 BRISA, La Grande, OR

EMAIL

d.mammen@conl.com

SIGNATURE

*Jim Kreider*

PRINTED NAME

Jim Kreider

ADDRESS

60366 Marvin Rd  
La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

jkreider@campblackdog.org

SIGNATURE

*Judie Arritola*

PRINTED NAME

Judie Arritola

ADDRESS

603 Modelaire La Grande, OR

EMAIL

jtol@charter.net

SIGNATURE

*Pasco Arritola*

PRINTED NAME

Pasco Arritola

ADDRESS

603 Modelaire La Grande, OR

EMAIL

PJTOLA@CHARTER.NET

SIGNATURE

*John Barutz*

PRINTED NAME

John Barutz

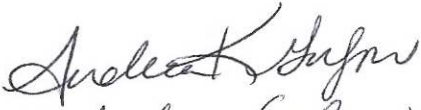
ADDRESS


484 Hawthorne LG, OR 97850


EMAIL





I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Andrea Gulzow  
ADDRESS 486 Hawthorne DR, LA Grande  
EMAIL foreverfamily33@aol.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Frances E. Lillard  
ADDRESS 471 Modelaire Dr. L.G.  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Brent H. Smith  
ADDRESS 410 Allium St  
EMAIL smithbrent@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME M. Jeannette Smith  
ADDRESS 410 Allium Street  
EMAIL jeannetterampf@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME KIMBERLEY HEITSTUMAN  
ADDRESS 2409 CENTURY LP, LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL kimheitstuman@hotmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE: 

PRINTED NAME Shawn K. Mangum

ADDRESS 2905 E. M. Ave,

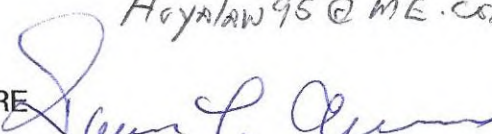
EMAIL Hoyalan95@ME.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL


  
CONNIE L. ALLEN 541-9637720  
410 BALSA STREET LAGRANDE, OREGON 97858  
N/A

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

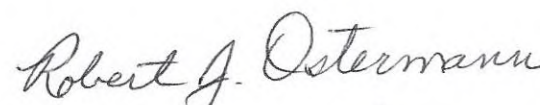
  
Linda Snyder  
491 Modelaire Dr

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL


  
Robert J. Ostermann  
495 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

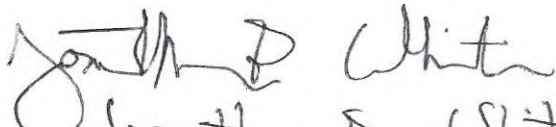
ADDRESS

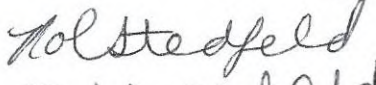
EMAIL


  
Robin J. Ostermann  
495 Modelaire Dr La Grande, OR 97850

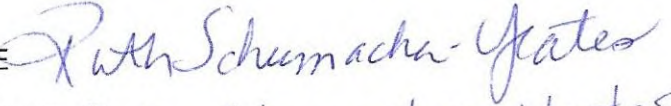


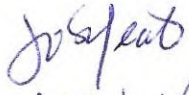
I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Jonathan D. White  
ADDRESS 485 Modelaire Dr  
EMAIL jondwhite418@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Robin Stedfeld  
ADDRESS 485 Modelaine Dr. La Grande  
EMAIL rstedfeld@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Rita Allen  
ADDRESS 410 Balsa St. La Grande Or.  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Ruth Schumacher Yeates  
ADDRESS 408 Sunset Drive La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL ruthschumacheryeates@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME JOHN YEATES  
ADDRESS 408 SUNSET DR. LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL jyeates52@gmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME LOIS BARRY

ADDRESS P.O. Box 566, La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL loisbarry31@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME CATHY WEBB

ADDRESS 1708 CEDAR ST. LAGRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL thunkski@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Jack L. Martin

ADDRESS 1412 Gilcrest Dr. LaGrande

EMAIL Buff Martin 27 @GMail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME GERALDINE BRASETH-PALMER

ADDRESS 1602 GILDEREST DRIVE LA GRANDE, Ore 97850

EMAIL 

SIGNATURE 


PRINTED NAME Jean BAPH


ADDRESS 1509 MADISON AVE LaGrande, OR 97850

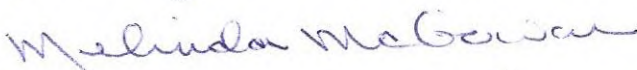
EMAIL Jbaph19@gmail.com





I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Damon Sexton  
ADDRESS 401 Balsa St La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL Sexton.damon@gmail.com

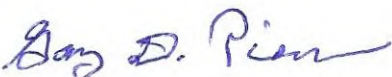
SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Cory Sexton  
ADDRESS 401 Balsa Street La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Corytrix@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Melinda McGowan  
ADDRESS 602 Sunset Dr.  
EMAIL melindamegowan@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Keith D. Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Keithdhudson@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Laura Elly Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL ellyhudson@gmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Gary D. Pierson

ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850

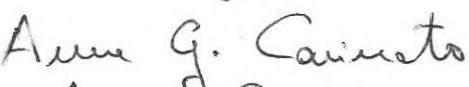
EMAIL —

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME LYNN WHEELER DUNCAN

ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850

EMAIL rlwd1910@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Anne G. Cavinato

ADDRESS 86 Hawthorne Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

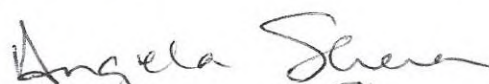
EMAIL acavinat@ecu.edu

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME JOE HORST

ADDRESS 86 HAWTHORNE DR. LA GRANDE OR.

EMAIL joehorst@comi.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME ANGELA Sherer

ADDRESS 91 W. Hawthorne Dr. LaGrande, OR 97850

EMAIL asherer@frontier.com



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE *Robert J. Sherer*  
PRINTED NAME Robert J. Sherer  
ADDRESS 97 W Hawthorne Dr, La Grande, Or. 97850  
EMAIL asherer@pontier.com

SIGNATURE *Heather M. Null*  
PRINTED NAME Heather M. Null  
ADDRESS 492 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL hnull@comi.com

SIGNATURE *Bert R. Frewing*  
PRINTED NAME Bert R. Frewing  
ADDRESS 709 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL jeanfrewing@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Lindsey McCullough*  
PRINTED NAME Lindsey McCullough  
ADDRESS 406 Balsa St., La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL lindz\_mm91@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE *Merle E. Comfort*  
PRINTED NAME MERLE E. COMFORT  
ADDRESS 209 SCORPIO DRIVE LA GRANDE OR 97850  
EMAIL merlecomfort@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Robin L. Maille*  
PRINTED NAME Robin Maille  
ADDRESS 401 Cedar St., La Grande  
EMAIL r-maille@icloud.com

SIGNATURE *Bruce C Kevan*  
PRINTED NAME Bruce C Kevan  
ADDRESS 1511 W Ave LG  
EMAIL bruce.kevan@lagrandesd.org

SIGNATURE *Carol S. Summers*  
PRINTED NAME CAROL S. SUMMERS  
ADDRESS 2811 Bekeler Ln - La Grande, OR  
EMAIL carolsummers1938@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Caroline Kaye Juniper*  
PRINTED NAME Caroline Kaye Juniper  
ADDRESS 406 NTH ST. LaGrande - OR 97850  
EMAIL



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE *Gerald D. Juniper*  
PRINTED NAME *Gerald Darwin Juniper*  
ADDRESS *406 4<sup>th</sup> St. LaGrande, OR. 97850*  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Dale Mammen <dmammen@eoni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 5:28 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposal Order 5/23/2019  
**Attachments:** Scan 2019-8-15 17.14.06.pdf

To: Chairman Beyeler and Members of the Council

Find attached a letter sign by me and 46 other residents of La Grande expressing our concerns regarding the B2H Project and requesting that EFSC Deny the Site Certificate.

I have also sent a bound copy of this material by US Postal Service.

Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon 97850

August 10, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E.  
Salem, Oregon. 97301

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018:Draft Proposed Order.

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

My comment is about the predicted noise levels resulting from construction and operation of the proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project. I would like to address the noise coming from the blasting and rock breaking specifically above the area at the top of Modelaire Drive 1 both to the north and the south of that area and also the construction traffic noise that that will impact the west hills and the area below.

In Exhibit X page X-9 3.3.1.1 2 blasting and rock breaking is mentioned saying that "Modern blasting techniques include the electronically controlled ignition of multiple small explosive charges in an area of rock that are delayed fractions of second, resulting in a total event that is generally less than a second. Impulse (instantaneous) noise from blasts could reach up to 140dBA at the blast location or over 90 dBA within 500 feet." This sounds oh so "don't worry about it, it will be OK just over in a split second." Living in this area off Modelaire Drive, I don't find this at all comforting. And the fact that this will be overseen by properly licensed personnel and all of the necessary authorizations doesn't help anything either.

The area in question, which for such inordinate construction is extremely close to many residents, has been my home for over 50 years and during

related medical problems and exhibit various reactions to loud noises.<sup>10</sup>  
These children also live in the neighborhoods to be affected by the noise so they would be impacted coming and going to school, at home and also while at school. To impose the constant possibility of loud noises is cruel, disrespectful and totally unacceptable. <sup>11</sup>

For a project like this involving blasting and heavy machinery noise so close to homes, schools, and medical facilities impacting hundreds of peoples' daily lives, the day to day agitation, wondering what is coming next, fear and being on constant alert are not just addressed by some type of mitigation but must be addressed by a route that is much less impactful to peoples' safety, sanity, and health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia L. Mammen".

Virginia L. Mammen

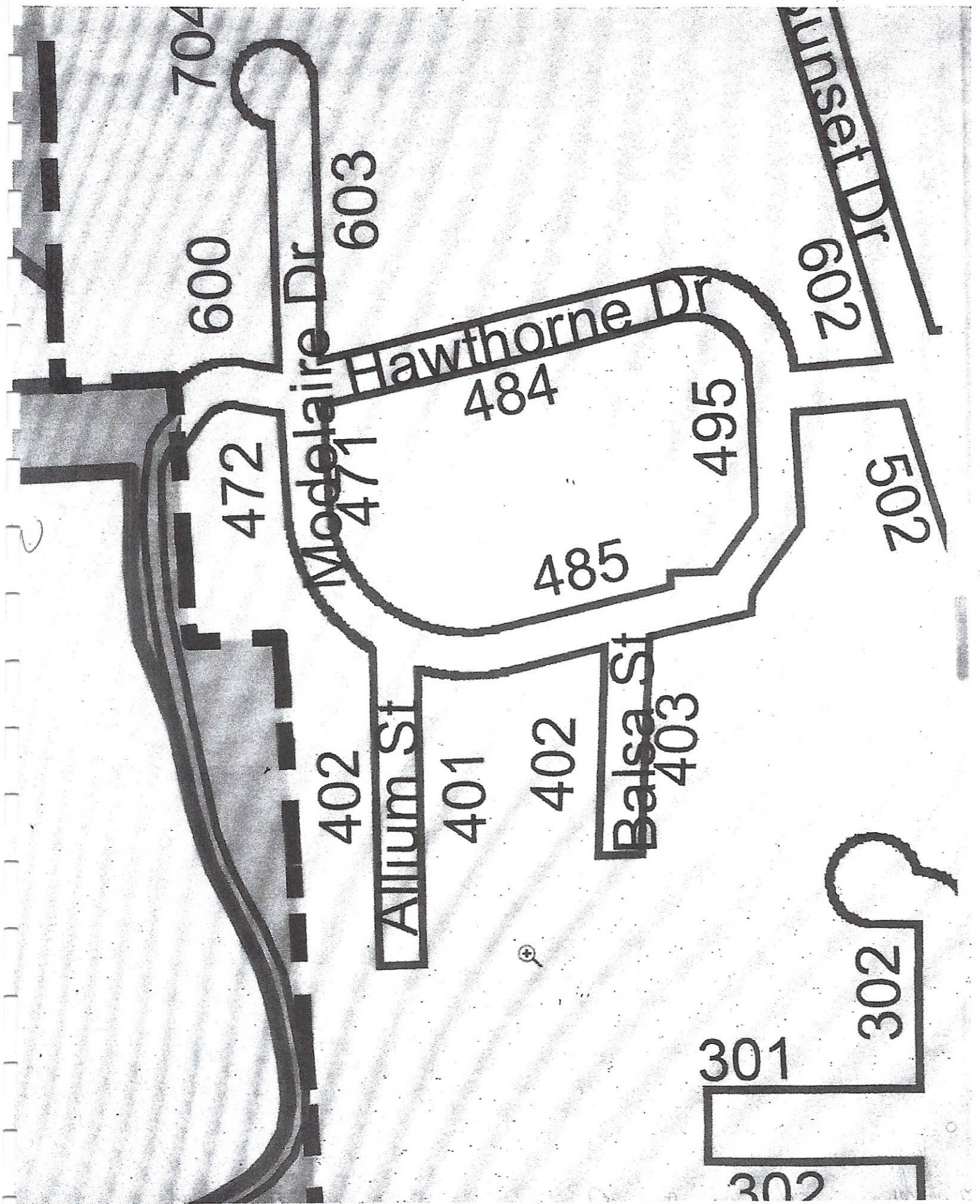
405 Balsa

La Grande, Oregon 97850

gmammen@eoni.com



N





### 3.3 Predicted Noise Levels

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(x)(A): Predicted noise levels resulting from construction and operation of the proposed facility.

#### 3.3.1 Construction Noise

##### 3.3.1.1 Predicted Construction Noise Levels

Project construction will occur sequentially, moving along the length of the Project route, or in other areas such as near access roads, structure sites, conductor pulling sites, and staging and maintenance areas. Overhead transmission line construction is typically completed in the following stages, but various construction activities may overlap, with multiple construction crews operating simultaneously:

- Site access and preparation
- Installation of structure foundations
- Erecting of support structures
- Stringing of conductors, shield wire, and fiber-optic ground wire

The following subsections discuss certain construction activities that will periodically generate audible noise, including blasting and rock breaking, implosive devices used during conductor stringing, helicopter operations, and vehicle traffic.

#### **Blasting and Rock Breaking**

Blasting is a short-duration event as compared to rock removal methods, such as using track rig drills, rock breakers, jackhammers, rotary percussion drills, core barrels, or rotary rock drills. Modern blasting techniques include the electronically controlled ignition of multiple small-explosive charges in an area of rock that are delayed fractions of second, resulting in a total event duration that is generally less than a second. Impulse (instantaneous) noise from blasts could reach up to 140 dBA at the blast location or over 90 dBA within 500 feet.

Lattice tower foundations for the Project typically will be installed using drilled shafts or piers; however, if hard rock is encountered within the planned drilling depth, blasting may be required to loosen or fracture the rock to reach the required depth to install the structure foundations. Final blasting locations will not be identified until an investigative geotechnical survey of the analysis area is conducted during the detailed design.

The contracted blasting specialist will prepare a blasting plan that demonstrate compliance with applicable state and local blasting regulations, including the use of properly licensed personnel and the acquisition of necessary authorizations. The Framework Blasting Plan is set forth in Exhibit G, Attachment G-5.

#### **Implosive Devices**

An implosive conductor splice consists of a split-second detonation with sound and flash. Implosive splicing activities are anticipated to be limited to daytime hours. A blasting plan will be developed by an individual certified and licensed to perform the work. The plan will communicate all safety and technical requirements including, but not limited to, delineation of the controlled access zone and distance away from residences.



## **Public Services**

### **OAR 345-022-0110**

This standard ensures that the proposed facility will not affect the ability of service providers in local communities to provide public services, such as fire protection or education. The applicant must assess the proposed facility's need for water and for disposal of wastewater, storm water and solid waste. The applicant must also evaluate the expected population increases in local communities resulting from construction and operation of the facility; and must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools. The Council must determine whether the applicant has identified potential adverse impacts to service providers and proposed adequate mitigation to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effect on the ability of a service provider to provide services. In considering the impacts, the Council solicits comments from affected local governments, fire or police departments, school districts and health care agencies.

## **Waste Minimization**

### **OAR 345-022-0120**

This standard requires the Council to evaluate the applicant's proposal to minimize solid waste and wastewater generated by construction and operation of the proposed facility. The standard requires recycling of wastes, if feasible, or proper waste disposal if recycling is not feasible.

The applicant must evaluate the types of waste products that would be produced during construction and operation of the proposed facility and estimate the amounts or volume of waste products. The applicant must propose appropriate methods to handle the waste through collection, storage and disposal. Compliance with the standard assures that the applicant will reduce the amount of waste generated and dispose of waste in a responsible manner.

## **Need for a Facility**

### **OAR 345-023-0005**

This standard requires the applicant for non-generating energy facilities (such as electric transmission lines) to demonstrate the need for the proposed facility. The Council's rules allow an applicant to demonstrate need for a non-generating facility through one of several methods, including the "Least-Cost Plan Rule" (OAR 345-023-0020) or the "System Reliability Rule for Electric Transmission Lines" (OAR 345-023-0030). Under the Least-Cost Plan Rule, the applicant meets this standard if the proposed transmission line was included in an Integrated Resource Plan that has been acknowledged by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC). More information about the OPUC and the Integrated Resource Plan acknowledgement process can be found at [www.puc.state.or.us](http://www.puc.state.or.us).

## **Specific Standards for Wind Facilities**

### **OAR 345-024-0010 and 345-024-0015**

This standard requires the Council to evaluate applications for wind energy facilities to ensure that applicants can design, construct and operate the facility so that the public is not endangered by moving turbine blades or electrical equipment, and that the applicant can design, construct and operate wind turbines to prevent structural failure that could endanger public safety. Siting standards for wind facilities also require the applicant to reduce cumulative adverse environmental effects in the vicinity by using existing roads, if possible, placing collection lines underground, designing the facility to avoid impacts to vulnerable wildlife in the area (especially birds and bats), and designing the facility to minimize adverse visual features, including using the minimum amount of lighting necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration for protecting aircraft.

## **Specific Standards for Transmission Lines**

### **OAR 345-024-0090**

This standard requires that the Council evaluate transmission lines under Council jurisdiction to ensure they are designed, constructed and operated to limit the strength of electromagnetic fields in areas where those lines are accessible to the public.





[Home](#) [Business](#) [Voting](#) [Elections](#) [State Archives](#) [Audits](#)

## Department of Environmental Quality

### Chapter 340

#### Division 35

#### NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS

**340-035-0035****Noise Control Regulations for Industry and Commerce****(1) Standards and Regulations:**

(a) **Existing Noise Sources.** No person owning or controlling an existing industrial or commercial noise source shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the statistical noise levels generated by that source and measured at an appropriate measurement point, specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, exceed the levels specified in Table 7, except as otherwise provided in these rules. [Table not included. See ED. NOTE.]

**(b) New Noise Sources:**

(A) **New Sources Located on Previously Used Sites.** No person owning or controlling a new industrial or commercial noise source located on a previously used industrial or commercial site shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the statistical noise levels generated by that new source and measured at an appropriate measurement point, specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, exceed the levels specified in Table 8, except as otherwise provided in these rules. For noise levels generated by a wind energy facility including wind turbines of any size and any associated equipment or machinery, subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(iii) applies. [Table not included. See ED. NOTE.]

**(B) New Sources Located on Previously Unused Site:**

(i) No person owning or controlling a new industrial or commercial noise source located on a previously unused industrial or commercial site shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the noise levels generated or indirectly caused by that noise source increase the ambient statistical noise levels, L10 or L50, by more than 10 dBA in any one hour, or exceed the levels specified in Table 8, as measured at an appropriate measurement point, as specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, except as specified in subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(iii).

(ii) The ambient statistical noise level of a new industrial or commercial noise source on a previously unused industrial or commercial site shall include all noises generated or indirectly caused by or attributable to that source including all of its related activities. Sources exempted from the requirements of section (1) of this rule, which are identified in subsections (5)(b)-(f), (j), and (k) of this rule, shall not be excluded from this ambient measurement.

**(iii) For noise levels generated or caused by a wind energy facility:**

(I) The increase in ambient statistical noise levels is based on an assumed background L50 ambient noise level of 26 dBA or the actual ambient background level. The person owning the wind energy facility may conduct measurements to determine the actual ambient L10 and L50 background level.

(II) The "actual ambient background level" is the measured noise level at the appropriate measurement point as specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule using generally accepted noise engineering measurement practices. Background noise measurements shall be obtained at the appropriate measurement point, synchronized with wind speed measurements of hub height conditions at the nearest wind turbine location. "Actual ambient background level" does not include noise generated or caused by the wind energy facility.

(III) The noise levels from a wind energy facility may increase the ambient statistical noise levels L10 and L50 by more than 10 dBA (but not above the limits specified in Table 8), if the person who owns the noise sensitive property executes a legally effective easement or real covenant that benefits the property on which the wind energy facility is located. The easement or covenant must authorize the wind energy facility to increase the ambient statistical noise levels, L10 or L50 on the sensitive property by more than 10 dBA at the appropriate measurement point.

[OARD Home](#)[Search Current Rules](#)[Search Filings](#)[Access the Oregon Bulletin](#)[Access the Annual Compilation](#)[FAQ](#)[Rules Coordinator / Rules](#)[Writer Login](#)



(2) Compliance. Upon written notification from the Director, the owner or controller of an industrial or commercial noise source operating in violation of the adopted rules shall submit a compliance schedule acceptable to the Department. The schedule will set forth the dates, terms, and conditions by which the person responsible for the noise source shall comply with the adopted rules.

(3) Measurement:

(a) Sound measurements procedures shall conform to those procedures which are adopted by the Commission and set forth in Sound Measurement Procedures Manual (NPCS-1), or to such other procedures as are approved in writing by the Department;

(b) Unless otherwise specified, the appropriate measurement point shall be that point on the noise sensitive property, described below, which is further from the noise source:

(A) 25 feet (7.6 meters) toward the noise source from that point on the noise sensitive building nearest the noise source;

(B) That point on the noise sensitive property line nearest the noise source.

(4) Monitoring and Reporting:

(a) Upon written notification from the Department, persons owning or controlling an industrial or commercial noise source shall monitor and record the statistical noise levels and operating times of equipment, facilities, operations, and activities, and shall submit such data to the Department in the form and on the schedule requested by the Department. Procedures for such measurements shall conform to those procedures which are adopted by the Commission and set forth in Sound Measurement Procedures Manual (NPCS-1);

(b) Nothing in this rule shall preclude the Department from conducting separate or additional noise tests and measurements. Therefore, when requested by the Department, the owner or operator of an industrial or commercial noise source shall provide the following:

(A) Access to the site;

(B) Reasonable facilities, where available, including but not limited to, electric power and ladders adequate to perform the testing;

(C) Cooperation in the reasonable operation, manipulation, or shutdown of various equipment or operations as needed to ascertain the source of sound and measure its emission.

(5) Exemptions: Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(ii) of this rule, the rules in section (1) of this rule shall not apply to:

(a) Emergency equipment not operated on a regular or scheduled basis;

(b) Warning devices not operating continuously for more than 5 minutes;

(c) Sounds created by the tires or motor used to propel any road vehicle complying with the noise standards for road vehicles;

(d) Sounds resulting from the operation of any equipment or facility of a surface carrier engaged in interstate commerce by railroad only to the extent that such equipment or facility is regulated by pre-emptive federal regulations as set forth in Part 201 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, promulgated pursuant to Section 17 of the Noise Control Act of 1972, 86 Stat. 1248, Public Law 92-576; but this exemption does not apply to any standard, control, license, regulation, or restriction necessitated by special local conditions which is approved by the Administrator of the EPA after consultation with the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to procedures set forth in Section 17(c)(2) of the Act;

(e) Sounds created by bells, chimes, or carillons;

(f) Sounds not electronically amplified which are created by or generated at sporting, amusement, and entertainment events, except those sounds which are regulated under other noise standards. An event is a noteworthy happening and does not include informal, frequent, or ongoing activities such as, but not limited to, those which normally occur at bowling alleys or amusement parks operating in one location for a significant period of time;

(g) Sounds that originate on construction sites.

(h) Sounds created in construction or maintenance of capital equipment;

(i) Sounds created by lawn care maintenance and snow removal equipment;

(j) Sounds generated by the operation of aircraft and subject to pre-emptive federal regulation. This exception does not apply to aircraft engine testing, activity conducted at the airport that is not directly related to flight operations, and any other activity not pre-emptively regulated by the federal government or controlled under OAR 340-035-0045;

## Controlling the Adverse Effects of Blasting

This module addresses the control of offsite impacts that result from blasting, namely:

- vibrations,
- airblast, and
- flyrock.

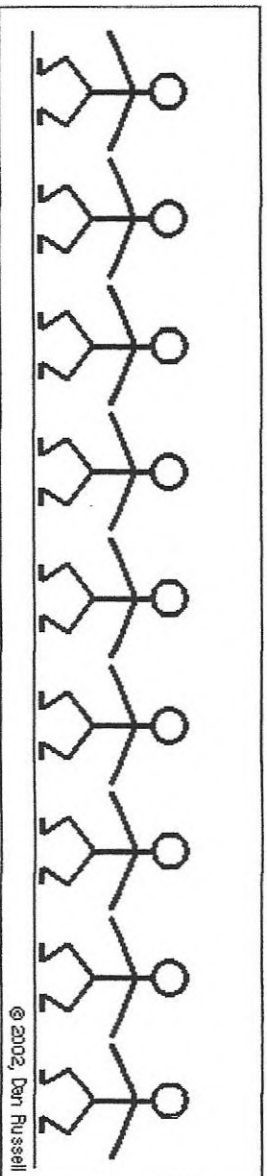
Much of the information in the module is derived from the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The performance standards apply to all surface coal mines. Similar standards have been adopted on some State and local levels and applied to non-coal blasting operations such as quarrying and construction.





## Part I: Ground Vibrations, Airblast, and Flyrock

Explosive energy is used to break rock. However, the use of this energy is not 100-percent efficient. Some of the energy escapes into the atmosphere to generate **airblast or air vibrations**. Some of the energy also leaves the blast site through the surface soil and bedrock in the form of **ground vibrations**.



Both air and ground vibrations create waves that disturb the material in which they travel. When these waves encounter a structure, they cause it to shake. Ground vibrations enter the house through the basement and airblast enters the house through the walls and roof.

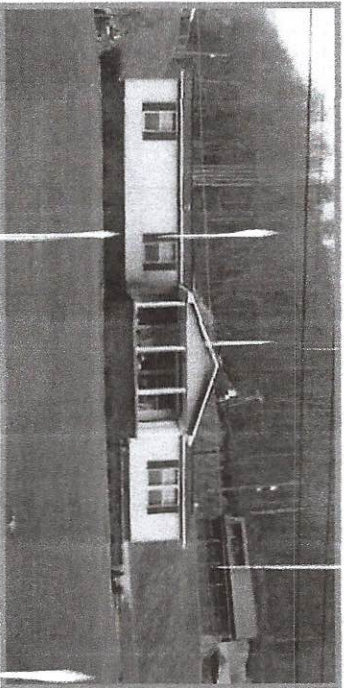
Airblast may be audible (noise) or in-audible (concussion). When outside a house the blast may be heard because of the noise, however noise has little impact on the structure. The concussion wave causes the structure to shake and rattles objects hanging on walls or sitting on shelves. This "interior noise" will alarm and startle people living in the house.

**Flyrock** is debris ejected from the blast site that is traveling through the air or along the ground. Flyrock the single most dangerous adverse effect that can cause property damage and personal injury or death.



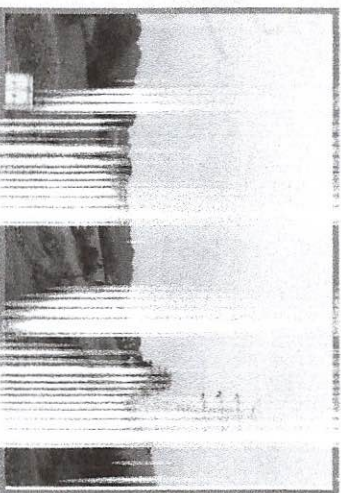
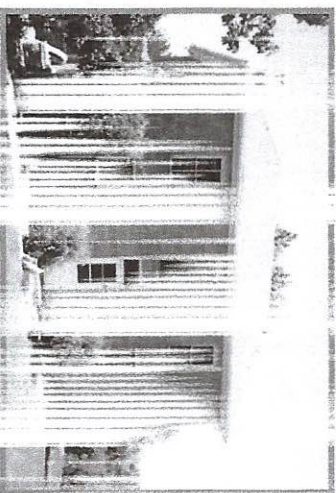
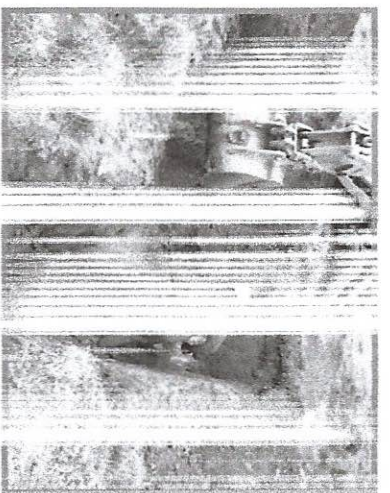
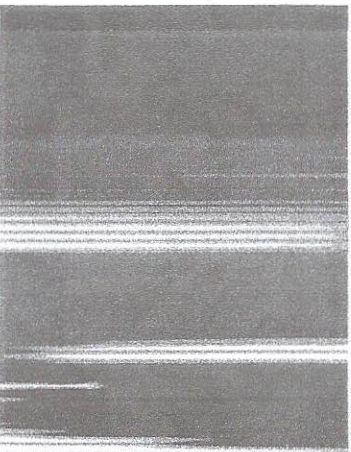
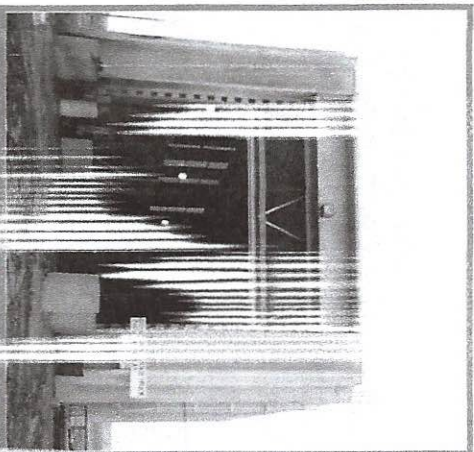
# Blasting Impacts on Structures

Both above-ground and below-ground structures are susceptible to vibration impacts. Structures can include onsite mine offices and buildings, as well as offsite residences, schools, churches, power-transmission lines, and buried pipelines. Some of these structures may include historic or cultural features sensitive to even low levels of vibrations.



It is important to understand:

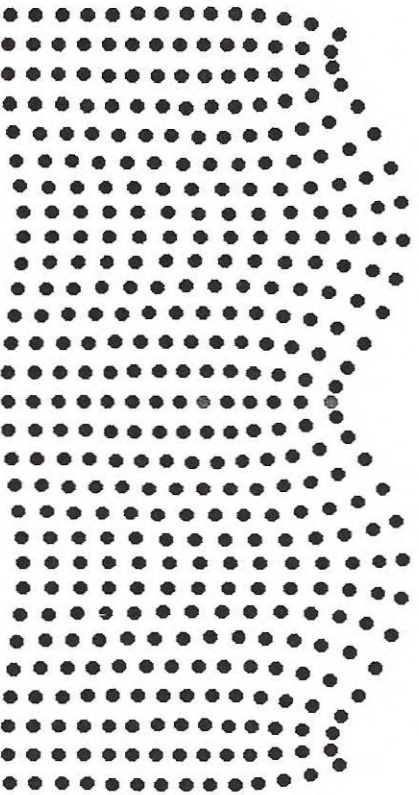
1. the causes of ground vibrations and airblast, and
2. what practices can be followed to control and minimize the adverse effects





# Ground Vibrations

Ground vibrations propagate away from a blast site as Rayleigh (or surface) waves. These waves form a disturbance in the ground that displaces particles of soil or rock as they pass by. Particle motions are quite complicated. At the ground surface (free boundary), measured particle motions have the greatest displacements, and displacements decrease with depth (see the illustration below). At a depth of between 20 to 50 feet below ground surface, particle displacements are barely detectable. Structures that are well coupled to the ground tend to move with this motion; structures buried in the ground are less affected by surface motions.



©1999, Daniel A. Russell

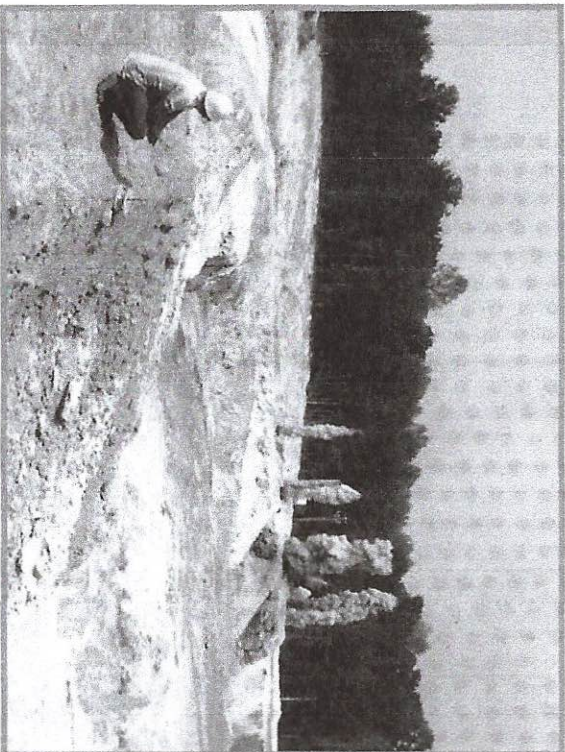
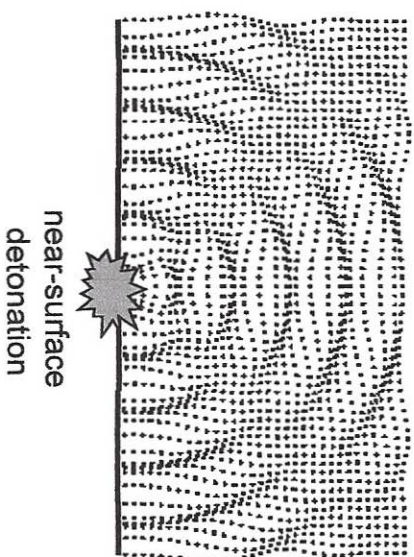
Ground vibrations are measured in terms of **particle velocity** and are reported in inches per second (ips) or the speed at which a particle of soil or rock moves.

At typical blasting distances from residential structures, the ground only moves with displacements equal to the thickness of a piece of writing paper. In terms of displacement, this equates to hundredths of an inch; visually, such movement cannot be detected.

# Airblast

2 Airblast is measured as a pressure in pounds per square  
5 inch (psi) and is often reported in terms of **decibels (dB)**.

Airblast is a pressure wave that that may be audible or inaudible. Elevated airblast levels are generated when explosive energy in the form gases escape from the detonating blast holes. Energy escapes either through the top stemming or through fractures in the rock along the face or at the ground surface.



Airblast radiates outward from the blast site in all directions and can travel long distances. Sound waves travel much slower (1,100 ft/s) than ground vibrations (about 5,000 – 20,000 ft/s). Hence, airblast arrives at offsite structures later than do ground vibrations.

Both ground vibrations and airblast cause structures to shake structures. Occupants in structures that are located far from a blast may experience shaking from vibration and airblast as two separate, closely spaced events. This can be particularly bothersome, as it prolongs the duration of structure shaking and leads the property owner to think that two separate blasts occurred.



# Structure Response

As ground and air vibrations reach a structure, each will cause it to shake. Structure response is dependant on the vibration characteristics (frequency and amplitude) and structure type.

Ground Vibrations enter the house through the basement. This is like shaking the bottom of a flag pole. Movement at the top of the pole depends on how (frequency) and how hard (amplitude) the bottom of the pole is shaken. If shaken at just the right pace, or at the pole's natural frequency, the top will move significantly compared to the bottom. Motion at the top is amplified from the bottom motion.

All blast damage studies have measured incoming ground vibrations at the ground surface. The observed structure amplifications were typically between 1 to 4 times the ground vibration. Structure response below ground level is the same or less than the incoming vibrations

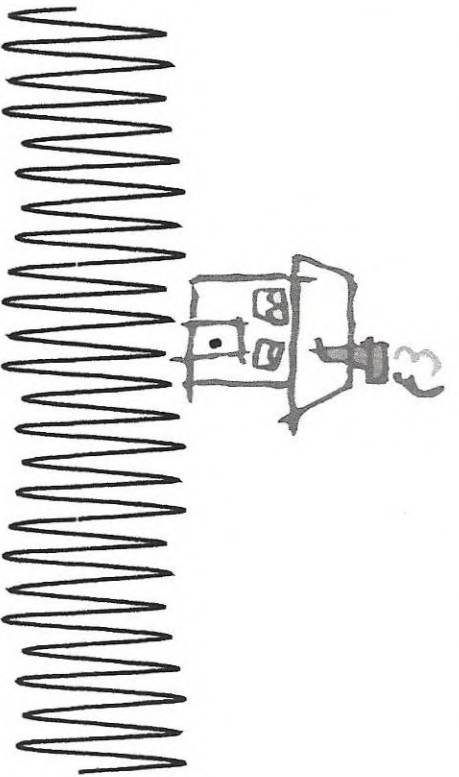
Airblast enters the house through the roof and walls. Like ground vibrations, the frequency and amplitude of the vibrations affect structure response. However the low frequency events (concussion) that most strongly affect structures is normally only a one or two cycle event.

Due to the different arrival times of ground and air vibrations, occupants may feel two distinct impacts on the house.



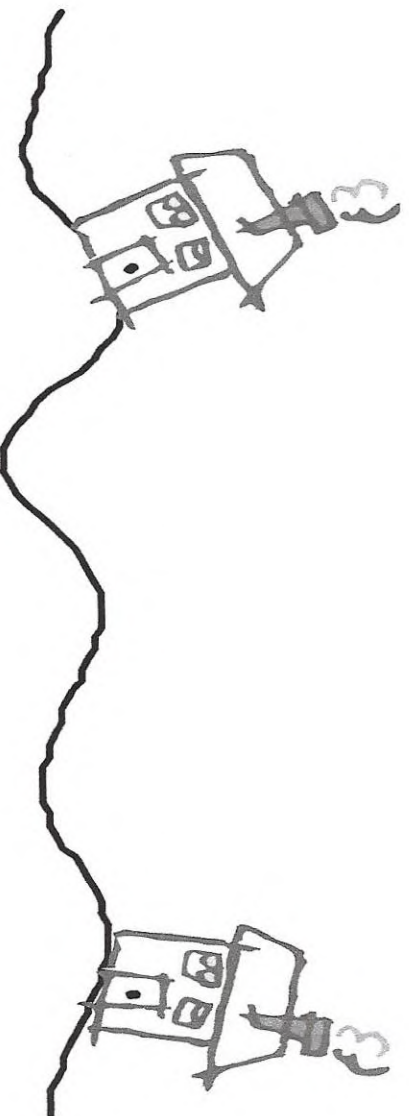
# Ground Vibration Structure Response

Exhibit 59



High frequencies do not promote structure shaking. The length of a single high-frequency wave cycle is short as compared with the dimension of a structure. A structure does not significantly respond to high frequencies.

On the other hand, low-frequency wave cycles are long as compared with the dimensions of structures. Accordingly, low frequencies tend to efficiently couple energy into structures and to promote higher-amplitude, long-duration shaking.





HEART  
HEALTHMIND &  
MOOD

PAIN

STAYING  
HEALTHY

CANCER

DISEASES &  
CONDITIONSMEN'S  
HEALTHWOMEN'S  
HEALTH

LICENSING

Harvard Men's Health Watch

## A noisy problem

***People often become more sensitive to noise as they age, which can affect their mental and physical health.***

Published: March, 2019

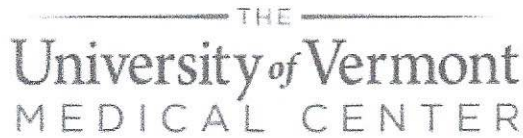


Image: © Juanmonino/Getty Images

Are you more sensitive to noises than you used to be? Do certain sounds now feel too loud and jarring? Don't worry; it's actually quite normal.

Age-related hearing loss is common among older adults and affects about two-thirds of men in their 70s and 85% of men ages 80 and older. Although it's not clear why, this can also make people hypersensitive to sounds that they used to tolerate easily, which in turn can affect their well-being.

"Exposure to noises from crowds, traffic, and other everyday sounds can become harder to tolerate and increase stress levels, leading to anxiety and a reduction in overall quality of life," says Dr. Stephanie Tompkins, an audiologist with Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts Eye and Ear. "As your sensitivity to noises increases, this can lead to greater isolation, too, as you may try to avoid potentially noisy places and situations."



(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/>)

UVM Medical Center Blog (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org>) » Blog (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/blog/>) »  
Quiet in the Hospital: How Noise...

# Quiet in the Hospital: How Noise Reduction Helps Patients Heal

on June 7, 2018 (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/innovations/hospital-noise-reduction/>) in Innovation  
(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/category/innovations/>) by UVM Medical Center  
(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/author/uvmmedcenter/>)

Noise. It is present in almost every aspect of our lives. From the traffic in the streets, to the fan that provides us white noise in the background to sleep, noise exists. Unfortunately, like stress, too much of it can have a negative impact on a person's health and rest. Some sounds we do like to hear, such as birds chirping, signaling spring in Vermont, but what about sounds in a hospital?

Many of us get admitted to hospitals when we are too sick to take care of ourselves at home. We expect exceptional care from physicians and nurses and, of course, to rest in order to help our bodies heal. We understand that some noises in a hospital are necessary for care; however, others simply aren't.

## The Sounds of a Hospital

Many organizations, including the UVM Medical Center, have high tech equipment, which greatly assists in the delivery of care to our patients, but can also be noisy. Sometimes, healthcare providers are the source of the noise as we interact and communicate with our patients and other health team members.

Another factor is visits from families and friends during visiting hours. It is difficult when one's roommate is trying to rest in the opposite bed. Yet, we need to be cognizant of noise in patient care areas as sounds can be magnified and misinterpreted, increasing agitation and even confusion for some patients.

We become accustomed to the noise; our patients are not.

## The Research on Noise, Quiet, and Healing



Research has shown that noise plays a negative role in healing and that decreasing noise in patient care areas aids in healing processes and helps facilitate speedier recoveries for patients. Patients are able to heal, sleep better and recover more quickly when able to rest. A quieter environment can also help decrease burnout for hospital staff.

Studies show that patients are more likely to develop negative side effects from a noisy hospital, such as sleep disturbances, elevated blood pressure and heart rate, and increased use of pain medications.

Noise can also increase annoyance levels for staff. One study indicated noise, such as talking inside and outside patient rooms, is the most common source of noise as well as visitors' voices, TVs, and behaviors of other patients.

Research concluded that best practices to eliminate noise from talking included staff education about noise reduction, public indicators such as sound monitors, a quiet time protocol, and lower cost environmental fixes, such as fixing noisy doors and squeaky wheels. Lastly, by introducing scripting with routine monitoring, patients' perception of quietness increased and the perception of noise decreased.

## How We Address Noise at the UVM Medical Center

We introduced the "Culture of Quiet" Organizational initiative. The Nursing Professional Governance Patient and Family Experience Global council continued this work. After convening a small task force of nurses and assessing current quiet strategies, we introduced the following tactics:

- Many hospital units have designated 'quiet hours' with automatically dimming of lights at quiet hour intervals.
- Signage is visible in most patient care areas to help keep patients, family, and visitors aware. Throughout the hospital, you will see signs with a relaxing pair of Adirondack chairs and the sun setting with details on when a unit has quiet hours.
- Many semi-private rooms have windows in doors, so doors can be closed allowing for patient rest.
- We offer headphones for TVs and earplugs to help minimize sounds.
- In-patient kits contain a sleeping mask and other comfort items that can be provided at time of admission. Each kit contains a card and explains, 'the best healing occurs in a quiet environment.'
- New education material is available for staff, patients and visitors-just ask to review the next time visiting.
- Some units offer white noise machines, others have this built in.
- Noisy equipment such as wheels and doors can be tagged and replaced.
- Our facility and distribution staff have changed their cleaning and supply delivery schedules to accommodate patient care.
- Healthcare teams within the hospital are focusing efforts to cluster patient care to minimize interruptions to provide restful moments.

## How you can help us.

We ask patients and visitors to hold us accountable when sounds are too loud. We want our community to alert us when noise levels are high and we will do what we can to minimize sound. In turn, we ask that all members of the healthcare team, patients, family, and friends be aware to keep voices soft, cell phones on vibrate, and hold each other accountable for these are the times of the day when our patients take pause to rest and positively impact their healing.

[Home](#)[Nursing Education](#)[Nursing News](#)[Featured Stories](#)[Headlines in Health](#)[Clinical Insights](#)[Nursing Career Development](#)[Membership](#)

# Dangerous Decibels: Hospital Noise More Than a Nuisance

By Diane Sparacino, Staff Writer

Imagine a world where hospitals have become so noisy that the annoyance has topped hospital complaints, even more than for the tasteless, Jell-O-laden hospital food (Deardorff, 2011). If you're a nurse, you know that we're already there – with noise levels reaching nearly that of a chainsaw (Garcia, 2012). In fact, for more than five decades, hospital noise has seen a steady rise (ScienceDaily, 2005).

But it wasn't always that way. At one time, hospitals were virtually noise-free like libraries – respected spaces, preserved as quiet zones. The culture was such that a loud visitor might be silenced by a nurse's purposeful glare or sharply delivered "Shhh!" As early as 1859, the importance of maintaining a quiet environment for patients was a topic for discussion. In Florence Nightingale's book, "Notes on Nursing," she described needless noise as "the most cruel absence of care" (Deardorff, 2011).

Fast forward to 1995, when the World Health Organization (WHO) outlined its hospital noise guidelines, suggesting that patient room sound levels not exceed 35 decibels (dB). Yet since 1960, the average daytime hospital noise levels around the world have steadily risen to more than double the





acceptable level (from 57 to 72 dB), with nighttime levels increasing from 42 to 60 dB. WHO found that the issue was not only pervasive, but high noise levels remained fairly consistent across the board, despite the type of hospital (ScienceDaily, 2005).

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University began to look into the noise problem in 2003. They maintained that excessive noise not only hindered the ability for patients to rest, but raised the risk for medical errors. Other studies blamed hospital noise for a possible increase in healing time and a contributing factor in stress-related burnout among healthcare workers (ScienceDaily, 2005).

Technology is, of course, partly to blame. State-of-the-art machines, banks of useful alarms, respirators, generators, powerful ventilation systems and intercoms all add up to a lot of unwanted racket. When human voices are added to the mix, (i.e., staff members being forced to speak loudly over the steady din of medical equipment), it's anything but a restful environment. For the recovering patient in need of sleep, that can be a real issue (Deardorff, 2011).

Contributing to the problem, experts say, are the materials used in hospitals. Because they must be easily sanitized, surfaces cannot be porous where they could harbor disease-causing organisms. Rather than using noise-muffling materials like carpet, acoustic tiles and other soft surfaces, hospitals have traditionally been outfitted using smooth, hard surfaces – especially in patient rooms. Good for cleanliness – not so great for dampening sounds, which tend to bounce around the typical hospital (Deardorff, 2011).

Which brings us to the most recent research, published January 2012 in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*. In the report, Jordan Yoder, BSE, from the Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago, and his colleagues associated elevated noise levels with “clinically significant sleep loss among hospitalized patients,” perhaps causing a delay in their recovery time (Garcia, 2012). During the 155-day study period, researchers examined hospital sound levels. The numbers far exceeded (WHO) recommendations for average hospital-room noise levels, with the peak noise at an average 80.3 dB – nearly as loud as a chainsaw or electric sander (85 dB), and well over the recommended maximum of 40 dB. And while nights tended to be quieter, they were still noisier than recommended allowances, with “a mean maximum sound level of 69.7 dB” (Garcia, 2012).

Perhaps most interestingly, the researchers broke down the sources of noise into categories: “Staff conversation (65%), roommates (54%), alarms (42%), intercoms (39%), and pagers (38%) were the most common sources of noise disruption reported by patients” (Garcia, 2012). “Despite the importance of sleep for recovery, hospital noise may put patients at risk for sleep loss and its associated negative effects,” they wrote. In addition, researchers found that the intensive care and surgical wards had some work to do in dampening noise levels, with ICU peaking at 67 dB and 42 dB for surgical areas. Both far exceeded WHO’s 30 dB patient room recommendation (Garcia, 2012).

Besides patient sleep deprivation, which itself can lead to a multitude of health problems including high blood sugar, high blood pressure and fatigue, studies have reported that elevated noise levels can increase heart and respiratory rates, blood pressure and cortisol levels. Recovery room noise causes patients to request more pain medication, and preterm infants “are at increased risk for hearing loss, abnormal brain and sensory development, and speech and language problems when exposed to prolonged and excessive noise” (Deardorff, 2011).

There is still more research to be done, of course, but Yoder and his colleagues had good news, as well; much of the hospital noise they identified is modifiable, suggesting that hospitals can take steps to successfully create a quieter environment for both patients and healthcare providers (Garcia, 2012).

Around the country, "quiet campaigns" have been launched by hospitals in an attempt to dampen nighttime noise. Besides dimming lights and asking staff to keep their voices down at night, they are working to eliminate overhead paging systems, replace wall and/or floor coverings – even the clang of metal trashcans. Northwestern's Prentice Women's Hospital in Chicago was built with noise reduction in mind, replacing the idea of centralized nursing stations with the advent of smaller, multiple stations (Deardorff, 2011)

Billed as "one of the nation's largest hospital construction projects," Palomar Medical Center in North San Diego County is a state-of-the-art facility that has been designed "to encourage quietness," according to Tina Pope, Palomar Health Service Excellence Manager. Slated to open its doors this August, the hospital will feature a new nursing call system to route calls directly to staff and help eliminate the need for overhead paging, de-centralized nursing stations and clear sig lines, allowing staff to check on patients without having to leave unit doors open. With measures already in place including "Quiet Hospital" badges on staff and posters at the entrance of every unit, a "Quiet at Night" campaign (9 p.m. – 6 a.m.), and a "Quiet Champions" program that encourages staff to report noise problems, Palomar is one of a growing number of hospitals working toward a new era of quiet.

## References:

Deardorff, J. (2011). Chicago Tribune.com. Chicago Tribune, Health. Hospitals drowning in noise. Retrieved from [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-04-24/health/ct-met-hospital-noise-20110424\\_1\\_hospitals-neonatal-intensive-care-unit-noise](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-04-24/health/ct-met-hospital-noise-20110424_1_hospitals-neonatal-intensive-care-unit-noise)

Garcia, J. (2012). Medscape.com. Medscape Today, News. Hospital Noise Results in Significant Patient Sleep Loss. Retrieved from <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/756575>

Sciencedaily.com. (2005). Rise In Hospital Noise Poses Problems For Patients And Staff. Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/11/051121101949.htm>

© 2015 AMN Healthcare, Inc. All Rights Reserved.





## Noises Are Truly Horrible For People Who Have PTSD

20 Mar '2018 [Sound](#)

Noise is a really big issue for PTSD survivors: people who have mental health problems because of their traumas. How are they connected?

Almost everybody has experienced a trauma. But some traumas are more scarring than others and can even result in long-lasting mental disorders like **PTSD**, which can have an extreme impact on someone's life. It's a disorder that can develop in the brain after a horrifying experience, like war or a car crash.

### Symptoms

The symptoms of PTSD are, to say the least, not pleasant. They range from nightmares about the traumatic events, disturbing thoughts and feelings, anxiety, trying to avoid anything that has something to do with the traumatic event, and an increase in the fight-or-flight response.

Around ten percent of the population suffers from PTSD, according to data from **NCBI**, a part of the US National Library of Medicine. And, remarkably enough, that percentage is the same for people who suffer from tinnitus (the sound of a constant beep in your ears). The NCBI clearly sees a link between the two.

PTSD survivors also suffer from the Exaggerated Startle Syndrome, with anxiety and actions in an extreme and irrational way too loud noises and bangs. And then there are the sounds that remind them of the sounds during the traumatic events, which can trigger memories of the





## Fear

PTSD can also cause a general fear of sounds: phonophobia, or a fear of some specific sounds: misophonia. Survivors of the disorder also are generally much more sensitive to sounds and perceive them as much louder than other people would.

All of this makes the life of people with PTSD very hard. If you think you are suffering from this, consult your doctor. Really, please do it. For yourself, and for the ones you love.

Do you have PTSD and would you like to tell your experiences to us? We are always very open and interested to hear what you have to say. And again: if you haven't done it yet, visit your doctor, please. Thank you!

[← Previous article](#)

[Next article →](#)

## Related articles





Front Psychol. 2013; 4: 578.

PMCID: PMC3757288

Published online 2013 Aug 30. doi: [10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00578](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00578)

PMID: [24009598](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24009598/)

## Does noise affect learning? A short review on noise effects on cognitive performance in children

Maria Klatte, \* Kirstin Bergström, and Thomas Lachmann

Center for Cognitive Science, Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Laboratory, University of Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern, Germany

Edited by: Nicole Wetzel, University of Leipzig, Germany

Reviewed by: Patrik Sörqvist, University of Gävle, Sweden; Emily M. Elliott, Louisiana State University, USA

\*Correspondence: Maria Klatte, Department of Psychology, Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Laboratory, University of Kaiserslautern, Erwin-Schroedinger-Strasse 57, 67663 Kaiserslautern, Germany e-mail: [klatte@rhrk.uni-kl.de](mailto:klatte@rhrk.uni-kl.de)

This article was submitted to Developmental Psychology, a section of the journal Frontiers in Psychology.

Received 2013 May 14; Accepted 2013 Aug 12.

Copyright © 2013 Klatte, Bergström and Lachmann.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) or licensor are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.

### Abstract

The present paper provides an overview of research concerning both acute and chronic effects of exposure to noise on children's cognitive performance. Experimental studies addressing the impact of acute exposure showed negative effects on speech perception and listening comprehension. These effects are more pronounced in children as compared to adults. Children with language or attention disorders and second-language learners are still more impaired than age-matched controls. Noise-induced disruption was also found for non-auditory tasks, i.e., serial recall of visually presented lists and reading. The impact of chronic exposure to noise was examined in quasi-experimental studies. Indoor noise and reverberation in classroom settings were found to be associated with poorer performance of the children in verbal tasks. Regarding chronic exposure to aircraft noise, studies consistently found that high exposure is associated with lower reading performance. Even though the reported effects are usually small in magnitude, and confounding variables were not always sufficiently controlled, policy makers responsible for noise abatement should be aware of the potential impact of environmental noise on children's development.

**Keywords:** noise, cognitive performance, cognitive development, children, speech perception, listening comprehension, irrelevant sound effect, classroom acoustics



In everyday life, cognitive tasks are often performed in the presence of task-irrelevant environmental noise. Accordingly, numerous studies on noise effects on performance have been conducted since the middle of the 20th century (for reviews see Hellbrück and Liebl, 2007; Szalma and Hancock, 2011), showing that—depending on characteristics of sounds and tasks—noise of low to moderate intensity may in fact evoke substantial impairments in performance.

Most of these studies were conducted with adults. The present review, however, will focus on studies including children. Children are especially vulnerable to harmful effects of environmental noise, as cognitive functions are less automatized and thus more prone to disruption. We will report findings concerning effects of acute noise on performance in concurrent auditory and non-auditory tasks, as well as effects of chronic noise on children's cognitive development.

### Effects of acute noise on children's performance in auditory tasks

Psychoacoustic studies have consistently shown that children's speech perception is more impaired than adults' by unfavorable listening conditions. The ability to recognize speech under conditions of noise or noise combined with reverberation improves until the teenage years (Johnson, 2000; Wightman and Kistler, 2005; Talarico et al., 2007; Neuman et al., 2010). With stationary noise makers, signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) have to be 5–7 dB higher for young children when compared to adults in order to achieve comparable levels of identification of speech or nonspeech signals, with adult-like performance reached at about 6 years of age (Schneider et al., 1989; Fallon et al., 2000; Werner, 2007). However, with maskers that vary over time, i.e., with trial-by-trial variation of the maskers' spectral composition (Oh et al., 2001; Hall et al., 2005; Leibold and Neff, 2007) or with fluctuating maskers such as single-talker speech (Wightman and Kistler, 2005), adult-like performance is usually not reached before the age of 10 years. Furthermore, children are less able than adults to make use of spectro-temporal and spatial cues for separation of signal and noise (Wightman et al., 2003; Hall et al., 2005). These findings demonstrate that children are especially prone to *informational* masking, i.e., masking that goes beyond energetic masking predicted by filter models of the auditory periphery.

Studies identified a range of linguistic and cognitive factors to be responsible for children's difficulties with speech perception in noise: concerning the former, children are less able than adults to use stored phonological knowledge to reconstruct degraded speech input. This holds for the level of individual phonemes, as children's phoneme categories are less well specified than adults' (Hazan and Barrett, 2000), but also for the lexical level since children's phonological word representations are more holistic and less segmented into phoneme units. Therefore the probability of successfully matching incomplete speech input with stored long-term representations is reduced (Nittrouer, 1996; Metsala, 1997; Mayo et al., 2003). In addition, young children are less able than older children and adults to make use of contextual cues to reconstruct noise-masked words presented in sentential context (Elliott, 1979). Concerning attention, children's immature auditory selective attention skills contribute to their difficulties with speech-in-noise perception. Children's susceptibility to informational masking has been attributed to deficits in focusing attention on auditory channels centered on signal frequencies, while ignoring nonsignal channels (Wightman and Kistler, 2005). Behavioral and ERP measures from dichotic listening paradigms provide evidence that auditory selective attention improves throughout entire childhood (Doyle, 1973; Pearson and Lane, 1991; Coch et al., 2005; Wightman et al., 2010; Gomes et al., 2012).

Owing to the mediating role of linguistic competence and selective attention, children with language or attention disorders are still more impaired than normally developing children by noise in speech perception tasks (Geffner et al., 1996; Ziegler et al., 2005, 2009). A stronger noise effect is also evident for children tested in their second language when compared to native children (Crandell and Smaldino,



# Autism & Anxiety: Parents seek help for extreme reaction to loud noise

September 5, 2018

*Our 12-year-old son has autism, mild intellectual disability and anxiety attacks so severe that we end up in the emergency room. Loud noises are the worst – for example the school fire alarm, thunderstorms, a balloon popping, fireworks. Any help would be greatly appreciated.*



*This week's "Got Questions?" answer is by Judy Reaven, a clinical psychologist and associate professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Colorado, in Denver. Dr. Reaven's conducted research on the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral therapy for anxiety in adolescents with autism, with the support of an [Autism Speaks research grant](#).*

***Editor's note: The following information is not meant to diagnose or treat and should not take the place of personal consultation, as appropriate, with a qualified healthcare professional and/or behavioral therapist.***

Thanks for the great question. It certainly sounds like your family is experiencing a very difficult situation. Anxiety symptoms and reactions are very common in individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). They can interfere with functioning across home, community and school settings.

Although your son's reaction sounds more severe than most, many people with autism struggle with a range of fears, phobias and worries. These can range from a debilitating fear of, say, spiders or the dark to chronic anxiety about making mistakes or being late.

Fortunately, recent research suggests that anxiety in children and adults who have autism is quite treatable. Often, these individuals are helped by the same or similar strategies that work well in treating anxiety in the general population.

These approaches include cognitive behavior therapy, or CBT. Cognitive-behavioral approaches are well-established, evidenced-based treatments that have become the gold standard of psychosocial treatments for anxiety. [My own research](#) and that of my colleagues has demonstrated the helpfulness of modifying cognitive-behavioral approaches to address the special needs of those who have autism.

Where to begin?

You describe a number of fears that may be related to sensory sensitivities. I recommend that you begin by consulting an occupational therapist who can assess whether your son's extreme sensitivities to noises are part of a broader sensory processing disorder. If this is the case, and if your son's fears are exclusively triggered by sensory stimuli, then his symptoms may be best addressed by a sensory-focused intervention. Many occupational therapists who specialize in autism receive special training in this area.

It's common for children with ASD and anxiety to become extremely frightened in response to sensory stimuli. Perhaps – like many individuals with autism – your son also has difficulty telling you what's scaring him. Instead, he may show his fear with extreme avoidance of a situation.

For example, he might refuse to go to school after a fire drill. He might become fearful of birthday parties after being frightened by a balloon that popped unexpectedly. Other signs of extreme distress can include yelling, crying, clinging and general agitation. Because your son may have difficulty communicating, it's important to observe his behavior for these signs of distress. This can help you determine what's triggering his fears.

#### Avoidance versus learning to cope

Many parents go to great pains to protect their children by avoiding agitating situations. This approach is sometimes appropriate and even necessary. However, it denies individuals the opportunity to learn how to manage anxiety-provoking situations on their own.

By helping your son learn to manage his fear, you can prepare him for an unpredictable world so that he can participate in it to the maximum extent possible.

Given the severity of your son's anxiety symptoms, I suggest that you seek professional support in addition to the strategies offered here. Families whose children have milder symptoms of anxiety can try these strategies on their own – seeking professional help if symptoms worsen.

#### Tackling one fear at a time

I suggest making a list of your child's major fears and worries. Try to rank order them from mild to severe. To encourage success, I'd start with a mild-to-moderate fear before taking on his extreme reaction to loud noises.

Key components of a cognitive behavioral approach include introducing coping strategies such as deep breathing and "helpful thoughts" that can help a person manage fearful reactions.

For example, you can teach your son to take deep slow breaths to help manage his body's physical anxiety reactions.

"Helpful thoughts" are statements that your son can say to himself when faced with a situation that makes him anxious. For example, you can coach to your son to say, "This is a loud noise. I don't like it, but I can handle it."

To help your son to learn these strategies, I suggest you model taking deep breaths while repeating a "helpful thought" out loud.

#### Graded exposure

The most important step is to help your son face his fears a little at a time. We call this "graded exposure." For example, explain to your son that the two of you are going to listen to a recording of thunder. The first time, you might play the recording at a soft volume, then gradually increase the volume over time as he demonstrates increased comfort with the sounds.

Or you might try watching a video of a balloon pop – perhaps with the volume off the first time. Then he can watch a real balloon pop while standing some distance away. Over time, he can move closer and closer to the balloon.

After such exercises, you can present him with small rewards for being brave and "facing fears." Remember that even a small act of bravery – such as listening to a recording of thunder for 10 seconds – represents an important step toward handling fears. It deserves to be acknowledged.

Although graded exposure may seem counterintuitive, research indicates that this strategy is the single most effective strategy for getting over a particular fear.

I wish you and your son the very best. Please let us know how you're doing with an email to [GotQuestions@autismspeaks.org](mailto:GotQuestions@autismspeaks.org).

60  
Shares

## Additional Resources & Tools

#### EXPERT OPINION

[Help for Child with Autism & Recurring Behavioral Crises: Part 2](#)

#### EXPERT OPINION

[Parents Seek Help for Son with Autism and Recurring Behavioral Crises](#)




SCIENCE  
NEWS


#### EXPERT OPINION


[Parents Seek Help: Child with Severe Autism Eats Only Sweets](#)





I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME JUDIE Arritola  
ADDRESS 603 Modelane La Grande OR  
EMAIL pjtolac@charter.net

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME JOHN GARLITZ  
ADDRESS 484 HAWTHORNE DR. LG, OR 97850  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Andrea Gulzow  
ADDRESS 486 Hawthorne DR, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL foreverfamily33@adl.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME FRANCES E Lillard  
ADDRESS 478 Mainville Dr. LG  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME C. Huxoll  
ADDRESS 472 Modelaire DR. La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL CHRISHUXOLL@EMAIL.COM

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Jessie Huxoll

ADDRESS

472 Madeline Dr. La Grande, OR 97050

EMAIL

JESSIEHuxoll@LIVE.COM

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Brent H Smith

ADDRESS

410 Allium St La Grande 97850

EMAIL

smithbrent@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

M. Jeannette Smith

ADDRESS

410 Allium Street

EMAIL

jeannettesmith@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Kimberley Hetstuman

ADDRESS

2409 CENTURY LP, LA GRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL

kimheitstuman@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Shawn K. Mangum

ADDRESS

2909 E. M. Ave.

EMAIL

Hoya/mw95@me.com

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

*Jonathan D. White*

PRINTED NAME

Jonathan D. White

ADDRESS

485 Madelaine Dr

EMAIL

jondwhite418@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Robin Stedfeld*

PRINTED NAME

Robin Stedfeld

ADDRESS

485 Madelaine Dr. LaGrande

EMAIL

rstedfeld@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE

*Ronnie L. Allen*

PRINTED NAME

Ronnie L. Allen 541-963-7720

ADDRESS

410 Balsa Street LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850

EMAIL

N/A NONE:

SIGNATURE

*Rita Allen*

PRINTED NAME

Rita Allen

ADDRESS

410 Balsa St. LaGrande Or.

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*Linda M. Snyder*

PRINTED NAME

Linda M. Snyder

ADDRESS

491 177048th AVE

EMAIL



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Robin J. Ostermann*

PRINTED NAME Robin J. Ostermann

ADDRESS 495 Modelaire Dr La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE *Robert J. Ostermann*  
Robert J. Ostermann

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS 495 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE *John Yeates*

PRINTED NAME JOHN YEATES

ADDRESS 408 SUNSET DRIVE LA GRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL jyeates52@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Ruth Schumacher Yeates*

PRINTED NAME Ruth Schumacher Yeates

ADDRESS 408 Sunset Dr, La Grande

EMAIL ruthschumacheryeates@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *D. Dale Mammen*

PRINTED NAME D. Dale Mammen

ADDRESS 405 Balsa. La Grande, Or

EMAIL dmammen@comi.com



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Damon Sexton*  
PRINTED NAME *Damon Sexton*  
ADDRESS *401 Balsa St La Grande, OR 97850*  
EMAIL *sexton.damon@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE *Coy Sexton*  
PRINTED NAME *Coy Sexton*  
ADDRESS *401 Balsa Street, La Grande, OR 97850*  
EMAIL *coytris@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE *Melinda McGowan*  
PRINTED NAME *Melinda McGowan*  
ADDRESS *602 Sunset Dr.*  
EMAIL *melindamegowan@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Lois Barry*  
PRINTED NAME LOIS BARRY  
ADDRESS P.O. BOX 566, LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL loisbarry31@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Cathy Webb*  
PRINTED NAME CATHY WEBB  
ADDRESS 1700 Cedar St. LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL thinkski@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *JoAnn Marlette*  
PRINTED NAME JOANN MARLETTE  
ADDRESS 2031 Court St. #8, Baker City, OR 97814  
EMAIL joannmarlette@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE *Keith D. Hudson*  
PRINTED NAME Keith D. Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Keithdhudson@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Laura Elly Hudson*  
PRINTED NAME Laura Elly Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL ellyhudson@gmail.com



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Lynn Wheeler Duncan*  
PRINTED NAME LYNN WHEELER DUNCAN  
ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, LaGrande OR 97850  
EMAIL rlwd1910@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Gary D. Pierson*  
PRINTED NAME Gary D. Pierson  
ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL -

SIGNATURE *Anna G. Carinato*  
PRINTED NAME Anna G. Carinato  
ADDRESS 86 Hawthorne Dr. La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL acavinat@ecu.edu

SIGNATURE *Joe Horst*  
PRINTED NAME JOE HORST  
ADDRESS 86 HAWTHORNE DR. LA GRANDE OR 97850  
EMAIL joehorst@con.com

SIGNATURE *Angela Sherer*  
PRINTED NAME Angela Sherer  
ADDRESS 91 W. Hawthorne Dr La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL asherer@frontier.com



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

*Merle E Comfort*

PRINTED NAME

MERLE E COMFORT

ADDRESS

209 SWAPLO LA GRANDE OR 97850

EMAIL

merlecomfort@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Robin L. Maille*

PRINTED NAME

Robin Maille

ADDRESS

401 Cedar St., La Grande

EMAIL

rmaille@icloud.com

SIGNATURE

*Carol S. Summers*

PRINTED NAME

CAROL S. SUMMERS

ADDRESS

2811 Bekelen Lane La Grande, OR.

EMAIL

carolsummers1938@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Caroline Kaye Juniper*

PRINTED NAME

Caroline Kaye Juniper

ADDRESS

406 4th Street - LaGrande - OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*Gerald D. Juniper*

PRINTED NAME

Gerald Darwin Juniper

ADDRESS

406 4th St. LaGrande, OR. 97850

EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Robert J. Sherer*

PRINTED NAME Robert J. Sherer

ADDRESS 970 Hawthorne Dr, La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL asherer@frontier.com.

SIGNATURE *Heather M. Null*

PRINTED NAME Heather M. Null

ADDRESS 492 Madeline Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL hnull@conl.com

SIGNATURE *Bert R. Freewing*

PRINTED NAME Bert R. Freewing

ADDRESS 709 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL jeanfrewing@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL





## Oregon Department of Energy and the Energy Facility Siting Council

Public Hearing on the Draft Proposed Order  
for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line  
June 18-20 and June 26-27, 2019, 4:30-8 p.m.  
Public Written or Oral Testimony Registration

Name (mandatory) Ronnie L. Allen

Mailing Address (mandatory) 410 BALSA STREET

LA GRANDE OREGON 97850

Phone Number (optional) ( ) 541 Email Address (optional) 963-7720

Today's Date: 06-20-2019

Do you wish to make oral public testimony at this Hearing: Yes ☐ No ☐

Written comments can also be submitted today.

All written comments must be received by the deadline, July 23, 2019, 5 p.m. PDT to:

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
Fax: 503-378-6457  
Email: [B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@oregon.gov)

Note: by submitting written or oral testimony, you will receive a notice from the Oregon Department of Energy at a future date of the opportunity to request party status in a contested case hearing on the proposed facility.

### Written Testimony

(Please print legibly - Use the back for additional space if needed. Additional written comments may be attached to this card.)

I live at 410 Balsa Street, La Grande. The rate of the equipment that will be used to construct the B2H line. I live one block off of the Oregon Trail and there are predominant wagon ruts in that area that will be demolished and other markers like grave sites. For that reason I am voicing my opinion as a NO vote

(additional space for written comments)

on the Boardman to Heminger Transmission Line.

I am unable to attend the 4:30-8pm meeting  
in Le Grande because of a recent broken arm injury  
and cannot sit that long.

Sincerely

Ronnie Allen

Ronnie Allen 6-20/2019



## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Dale Mammen <dmammen@eoni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 5:53 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019  
**Attachments:** Scan 2019-8-15 17.38.19.pdf

To: Chairman Beyeler and Members of the Council

Find attached a letter signed by me and 54 other residents of La Grande expressing our concerns regarding the B2H Project and we request that EFSC deny the Site Certificate.

I have also sent a bound copy of this material by the US Postal Service.

Sincerely,

Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon 97850

August 10, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018:Draft Proposed Order.

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

My comment is about the usage of the "Local Streets" <sup>1</sup> specifically the Modelaire-Hawthorne Loop) <sup>2</sup>, hereafter referred to as the "loop", of La Grande to access the site entrance. This residential "loop" was constructed without sidewalks for a new development around the early 1960s.

According to OAR 345-022-0110, Public Services (pg. 5. April 2017) "The applicant...must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic, safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools." <sup>3</sup>

My impression from reviewing the application Page 17 <sup>4</sup> is that the applicant has not fully examined the final portion of the intended route nor does it fully recognize or address the need for traffic mitigation. This "loop" is the only access to/from thirty-six houses to the rest of the city. The area to the north of the "loop" is occupied by the Grande Ronde Hospital and Medical Clinic. Two blocks to the east is located the local high school and a grade school. <sup>2</sup>

In June of 2016, the Grande Ronde Hospital petitioned the City to have a conditional use for a parking lot expansion project next to Hawthorne. The Conditional Use Permit was approved subject to the Condition of Approval that "No driveway access to GRH parking lot areas shall be permitted onto Hawthorn Drive as such street is developed to residential standards and is not designed to support commercial traffic." <sup>5</sup>

The La Grande Director of Public Works, Kyle Carpenter, provided information regarding the widths for the streets in question. The two streets range from 33 feet to 37 feet in width with no sidewalks. I personally measured the area where the unpaved stem of Hawthorne leaves the "loop" to go up the hill. At the junction it measures 32 feet curb cut to curb cut and narrows to 18-21 feet in width as it goes around the corner up the hill. 6 The Public Works Director also provided pictures of the mapping system showing the existing utilities located in the "loop". 7-8. It should also be noted that from the entrance to the "loop" at Sunset Drive to the entrance of the site the road has a 16% grade.

Attachment U2 9 from the application shows an "Aerial Lift Crane to be Used During Construction" and the Transportation and Traffic Plan on page 19 10 lists a number of other vehicles anticipated to be used. Article 6.6 — Public Street Standards for the City of La Grande Section 6.6.002 states that "Collector Streets are designed to withstand normal trucks of an HS20 loading. Larger trucks are to utilize Arterial Streets where at all possible." 11 The majority of vehicles listed on page 19 exceed that limit and would be using a Local Street in addition to Arterial and Collector Streets. According to the Public Works Director the two streets in the "loop" were designed as Local Streets for residential use, able to accept the pressures of HS20 for the purpose of an occasional need such as a weekly garbage truck or an emergency vehicle but for no more than 5% of the time. The paving construction of these over 50 year old streets in the "loop" was not designed for repetitive use by vehicles heavier than a normal car. These streets in the "loop" have not been repaved, only patched when necessary, since they were first constructed.

The application does not address the "loop" specifically, but 3.1.2 (pg. 19) 10 and Table 6 (pg. 17) 12 of the Transportation and Traffic Plan indicate there would be numerous vehicles using this route. Not knowing exactly just which vehicles would be on the "loop" daily but making a conservative estimate of 50 round trips (100 single) it would be a constant parade with one truck every 7.2 minutes. This is unacceptable for numerous reasons including constant excessive noise.

Not only would weight of the vehicles be a problem but the narrowness of the "loop" streets and the ninety degree blind curves that would have to be executed would be either impossible or extremely dangerous considering the turning radius for many of these large vehicles. The



already dangerous situation for a number of driveways that exit onto these "loop" streets at blind curves would be exacerbated. 13-14

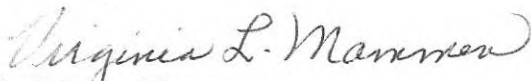
When considering only the traffic and safety issues listed above, the use of the "loop" as a part of the route for Idaho Power seems to be not only dangerous for the residents but unconscionable and irresponsible for Idaho Power to use such streets that are currently primarily for the neighborhood for walking (children to school, all ages for physical training), driving, or biking. I fear there are standards that are either not being considered or they are intentionally being ignored. There should be some common sense, courtesy and respect for the impact this project would impose on any neighborhood.

Finally, La Grande Ordinance Number 3077, which adopted Oregon State Traffic Laws by reference, states in Section 17 page 8 "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to use, drive or operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight of 26,000, pounds or more upon any street of the City of La Grande, Oregon, except upon posted truck routes." Neither Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop nor Sunset Drive are posted as truck routes. 15-16

A site review and traffic plan must be completed prior to the cite certificate being issued and not 90 days prior to construction as stated.

For the above reasons I oppose the usage of the proposed route for the construction of the B2H transmission line.

Sincerely,

  
Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon. 97850

gmammen@eoni.com



**TABLE 1  
 STREET STANDARDS**

Functional Classification	ADT Volume	Speed (mph)	# of Travel Lanes	Travel Lane Width	Turn Lane or Median Width	Bike Lanes	Min. Bike Lane Width	On-Street parking
Downtown Arterial	10,000	20	2-3	11'	11'			both sides
Arterial	10,000	40-55	2-5	12'	4-14'	optional <sup>4</sup>	5'	none
Major Collector	2,000 - 10,000	25-45	2-3	11'	12'	required	5'	one or both sides
Minor Collector	1,000 - 2,000	25-35	2	11'	none	Optional <sup>5</sup>	5'	one or both sides
Local Street	0 - 1,000	15-25	2	10'	none	none	none	one or both sides

Functional Classification	Sidewalks	Min. Sidewalk Width	Planting Strip Width <sup>1</sup>	Total Paved Width <sup>2</sup>	Total ROW Width <sup>3</sup>	Private Access Spacing
Downtown Arterial	required	12'	3'6" <sup>6</sup>	49'	80'	200'
Arterial	required	5'	8'	36'-72'	80'-102'	200' - 400'
Major Collector	required	5'	8'	52'-60'	62'-90'	150' - 300'
Minor Collector	required	5'	8'	30'-48'	60'-78'	75' - 150'
Local Street	required	5'	8'	28'-36'	40'-66'	Each Lot

<sup>1</sup>A portion of the required planting strip width may be used instead as additional sidewalk width or reduced right of way, as appropriate.

<sup>2</sup>The minimum of the paved width was calculated with the following assumptions:

Arterials: Two (2) travel lanes, four foot (4') median divider, no center turn lane, no bike lanes.

Major Collectors: Two (2) travel lanes, two (2) bike lanes, no center turn lane, parking on one (1) side.

Minor Collectors: Two (2) travel lanes, parking on one (1) side of street, no bike lanes.

Local Streets: Two (2) travel lanes, parking on one (1) side of street.

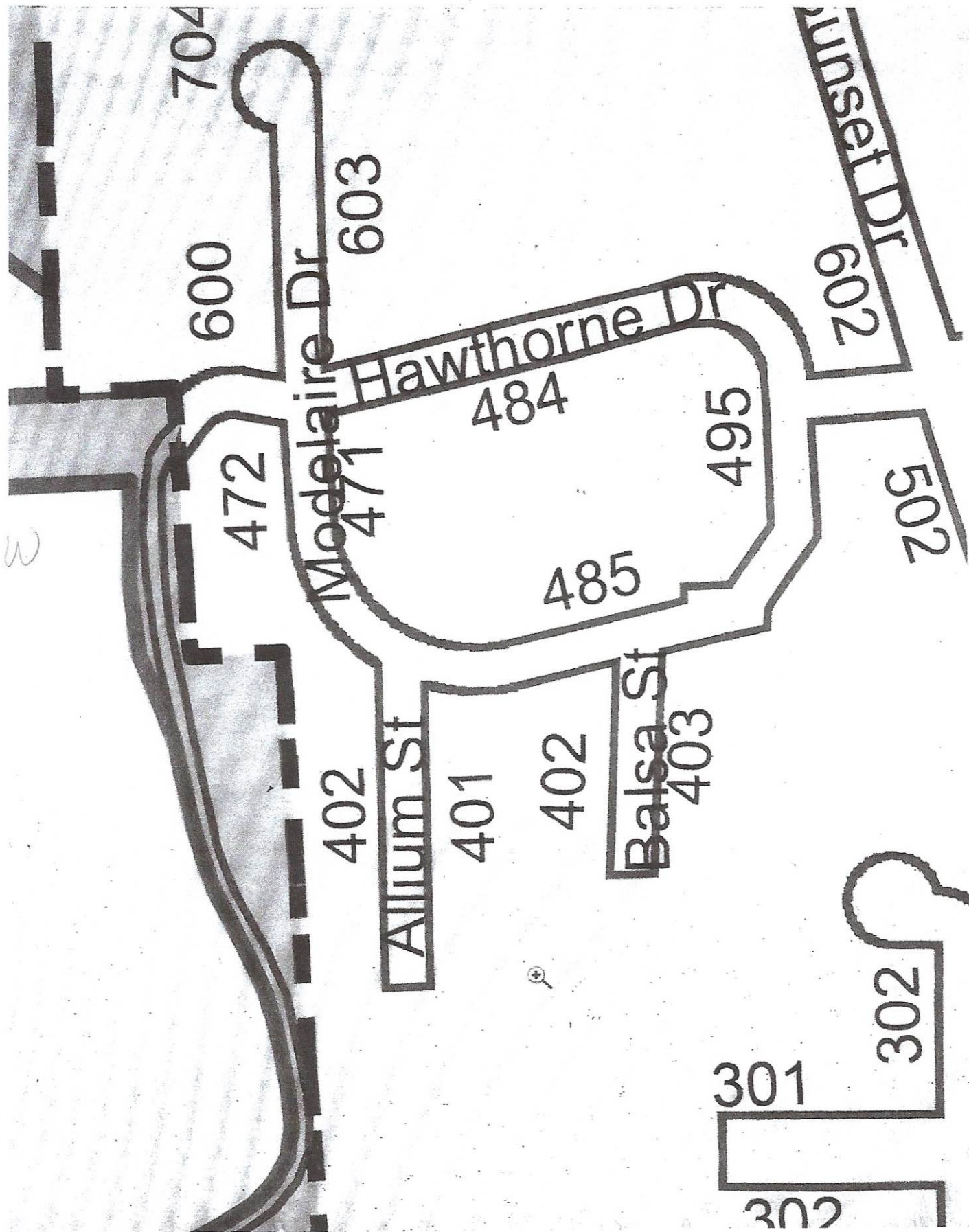
The maximum paved width for each street was calculated assuming the inclusion of all required and optional facilities. Minimum paved widths for each street are as required in Section 6.2.005 of this Code.

<sup>3</sup>These right-of-way width ranges are for new streets.

<sup>4</sup>Bike lanes should be provided on Arterials unless more desirable parallel facilities are designated and designed to accommodate bicycles.

<sup>5</sup> Bike lanes should be provided on Minor Collectors where traffic volumes or other factors warrant. Otherwise, Minor Collectors should be designed and designated as shared roadway facilities with wide outside travel lanes of 14' on important bike routes.

N



5



## Public Services

### OAR 345-022-0110

This standard ensures that the proposed facility will not affect the ability of service providers in local communities to provide public services, such as fire protection or education. The applicant must assess the proposed facility's need for water and for disposal of wastewater, storm water and solid waste. The applicant must also evaluate the expected population increases in local communities resulting from construction and operation of the facility; and must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools. The Council must determine whether the applicant has identified potential adverse impacts to service providers and proposed adequate mitigation to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effect on the ability of a service provider to provide services. In considering the impacts, the Council solicits comments from affected local governments, fire or police departments, school districts and health care agencies.

## Waste Minimization

### OAR 345-022-0120

This standard requires the Council to evaluate the applicant's proposal to minimize solid waste and wastewater generated by construction and operation of the proposed facility. The standard requires recycling of wastes, if feasible, or proper waste disposal if recycling is not feasible.

The applicant must evaluate the types of waste products that would be produced during construction and operation of the proposed facility and estimate the amounts or volume of waste products. The applicant must propose appropriate methods to handle the waste through collection, storage and disposal. Compliance with the standard assures that the applicant will reduce the amount of waste generated and dispose of waste in a responsible manner.

## Need for a Facility

### OAR 345-023-0005

This standard requires the applicant for non-generating energy facilities (such as electric transmission lines) to demonstrate the need for the proposed facility. The Council's rules allow an applicant to demonstrate need for a non-generating facility through one of several methods, including the "Least-Cost Plan Rule" (OAR 345-023-0020) or the "System Reliability Rule for Electric Transmission Lines" (OAR 345-023-0030). Under the Least-Cost Plan Rule, the applicant meets this standard if the proposed transmission line was included in an Integrated Resource Plan that has been acknowledged by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC). More information about the OPUC and the Integrated Resource Plan acknowledgement process can be found at [www.puc.state.or.us](http://www.puc.state.or.us).

## Specific Standards for Wind Facilities

### OAR 345-024-0010 and 345-024-0015

This standard requires the Council to evaluate applications for wind energy facilities to ensure that applicants can design, construct and operate the facility so that that the public is not endangered by moving turbine blades or electrical equipment, and that the applicant can design, construct and operate wind turbines to prevent structural failure that could endanger public safety. Siting standards for wind facilities also require the applicant to reduce cumulative adverse environmental effects in the vicinity by using existing roads, if possible, placing collection lines underground, designing the facility to avoid impacts to vulnerable wildlife in the area (especially birds and bats), and designing the facility to minimize adverse visual features, including using the minimum amount of lighting necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration for protecting aircraft.

## Specific Standards for Transmission Lines

### OAR 345-024-0090

This standard requires that the Council evaluate transmission lines under Council jurisdiction to ensure they are designed, constructed and operated to limit the strength of electromagnetic fields in areas where those lines are accessible to the public.





Idaho Power Responses to Comments and Requests for Additional Information on the B2H APASC  
from the City of La Grande  
Compiled by ODOE. RAI's from the City of La Grande and Responses from IPC

U	U- Public Services include utilities such as road systems, water, sanitation services, power, and other amenities necessary for the construction.	Ordinance #2912, Series 1997 gives the City jurisdiction and control on all City street rights-of-way and Ordinance #3077, Series 2009, establishes the process and requirements for permits and licenses for uses of the streets that are not normal uses and may result in damages.	proposed helipad is a necessary supporting facility.	<p>To address the City's concerns regarding traffic and road use within the city's limits, Idaho Power has added the following proposed conditions to Exhibit K:</p> <p><u>Land Use Condition 9: Prior to construction in Union County, the site certificate holder shall complete the following to address traffic impacts in the county:</u></p> <p><u>a. The site certificate holder shall finalize, and submit to the department for its approval, a final county-specific transportation and traffic plan. The protective measures described in the draft Transportation and Traffic Plan in ASC Exhibit U, Attachment U-2, shall be included and implemented as part of the final county-specific plan, unless otherwise approved by the department;</u></p> <p><u>b. The site certificate holder shall work with the Union County Road Department and the City of La Grande Public Works Department to identify concerns related to Project construction traffic; and</u></p> <p><u>c. The site certificate holder shall develop traffic control measures to mitigate the effects of Project construction traffic;</u></p> <p><u>Land Use Condition 26: During construction in Union County, the site certificate holder shall conduct all work in compliance with the Union County-specific</u></p>
---	---	---	--	---



#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the Findings of Fact above, the Planning Commission concludes that the application meets the requirements established in LDC Articles 8.5 and other applicable codes and Ordinances.

#### V. ORDER AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Based on the conclusions above, the Planning Commission approves the Conditional Use Permit as requested, subject to the following Conditions of Approval:

1. No driveway access to GRH parking lot areas shall be permitted onto Hawthorn Drive as such street is developed to a residential standards and is not designed to support commercial traffic.
2. Any existing driveway curb cuts along Hawthorn Drive bordering GRH's property, that are not used for residential purposes, shall be removed and replaced with City standard improvements that exists adjacent to such areas.
3. There is a storm sewer line extending through the project area that shall to be protected. Any improvements that may affect the storm sewer line shall be reviewed and approved by the Public Works Director.

#### VI. STANDARD CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL FOR LAND USE APPLICATIONS

1. **Revisions to a Valid Conditional Use Permit:** Any variations, alterations, or changes in a valid Conditional Use Permit requested by the deed holder shall be considered in accordance with the procedures of the Land Development Code as though a new Conditional Use Permit were being applied for.
2. **Public Works Standards:** Where a development involves work within the public right-of-way, a Right-of-Way Permit shall be obtained from the Public Works Department in advance of commencing with any work in the right-of-way. All improvements within the public right-of-way shall be in conformance with the most recent adopted City of La Grande "Engineering Standard Drawings and Specifications for Construction Manual."
3. **Building Permits:** The City of La Grande Building Department shall be contacted early in the process and in advance of development to coordinate and obtain required building, plumbing, electrical and/or mechanical permits. All required permits shall be acquired in advance of construction.

#### VI. OTHER PERMITS AND RESTRICTIONS

The applicant and property owner is herein advised that the use of the property involved in this application may require additional permits from the City of La Grande or other local, State or Federal Agencies.

The City of La Grande land use review, approval process and any decision issued does not take the place of, or relieve the applicant of responsibility for acquiring such other permits, or satisfy any restrictions or conditions thereon. The land use decision herein does not remove, alter, or impair in any way the covenants or restrictions imposed on this property by deed or other instrument.

The land use approvals granted by this decision shall be effective only when the rights granted herein have been exercised and commenced within one (1) year of the effective date of the decision. In case such right has not been exercised and commenced or an extension obtained, the approvals granted by this decision shall become null and void. A written request for an extension of time shall be filed with the Planning Department at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of the approval.



Virginia Mammen &lt;4gmammen@gmail.com&gt;

**Modelaire Roadway Specifications**

3 messages

**Kyle Carpenter** <KCarpenter@cityoflagrande.org>  
To: "gmammen@eoni.com" <gmammen@eoni.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2019 at 1:51 PM

I have attached a couple pictures of our mapping system that will give you a sense of where existing utilities are in Modelaire and Hawthorne. As for the widths of the roadways, I took measurements in multiple places, and found the following:

- Modelaire Drive (F Avenue) between Sunset Blvd and Hawthorne Drive is approximately 33 feet wide with a grade of about 5 Percent.
- Hawthorne Drive is approximately 32 feet wide at the bottom near the intersection of Modelaire/F Avenue and widens to about 34 feet where it intersects Modelaire at the top of the hill. The grade heading up hill is approximately 15.5 Percent.
- Modelaire Drive is generally 36 feet wide with some minor variability generally less than a foot (35' to 37'). On the southernmost segment of the roadway where the majority of the elevation gain is observed the grade is approximately 16 Percent.

Let me know if there are any other specifications of these roadways that you are interested in that I have missed. Have a great weekend and thanks for the treats, the guys were very appreciative.

*Kyle Carpenter, PE*

**Public Works Director**

**City of La Grande**

**Public Works**

Ph: (541) 962-1325

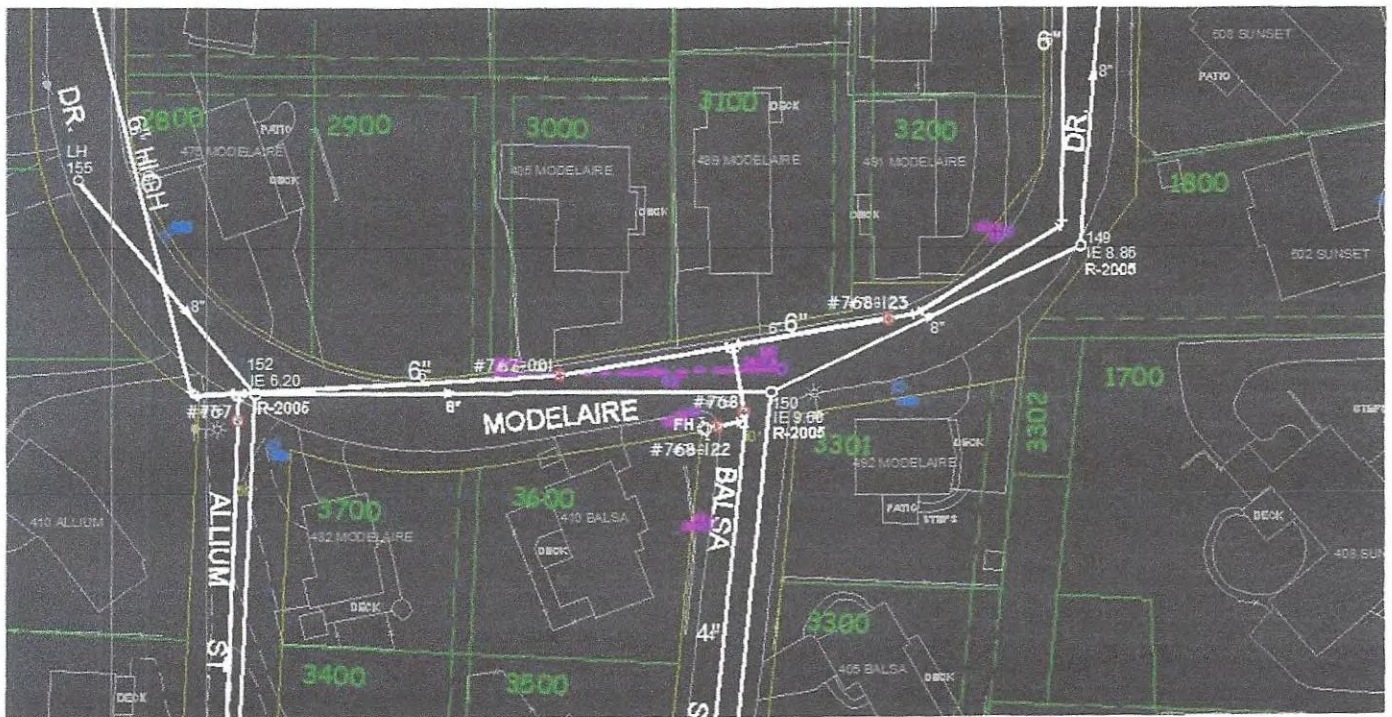
Fax: (541) 963-4844

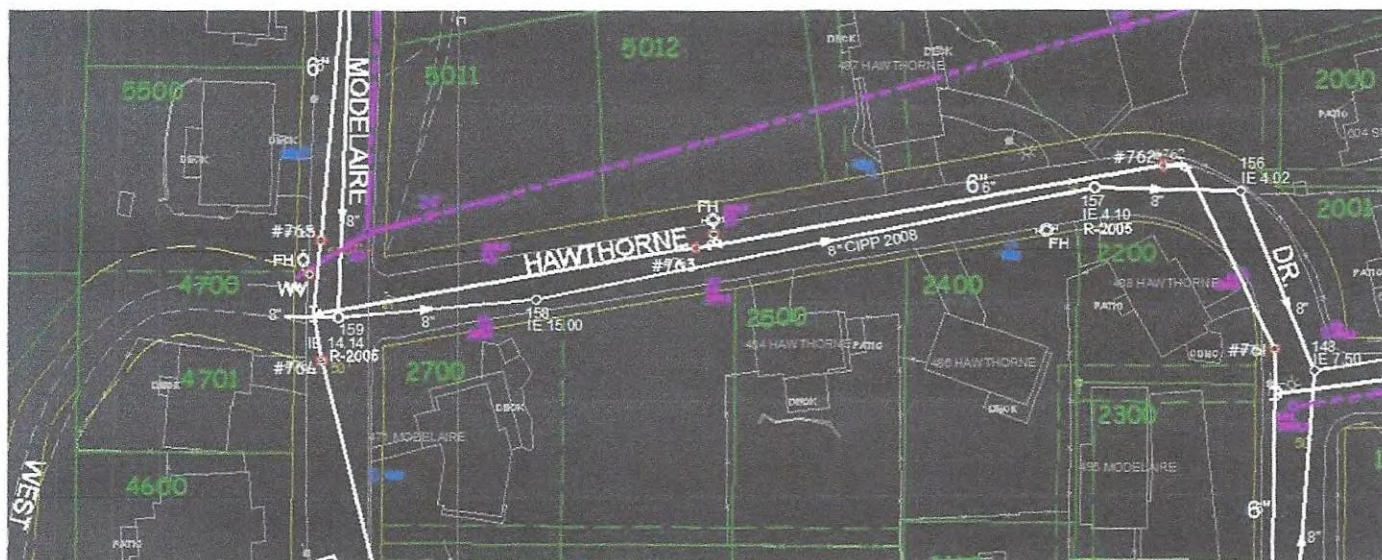
**2 attachments**

**Hawthorne.jpg**  
150K

**Modelaire.jpg**  
120K









attachment U2

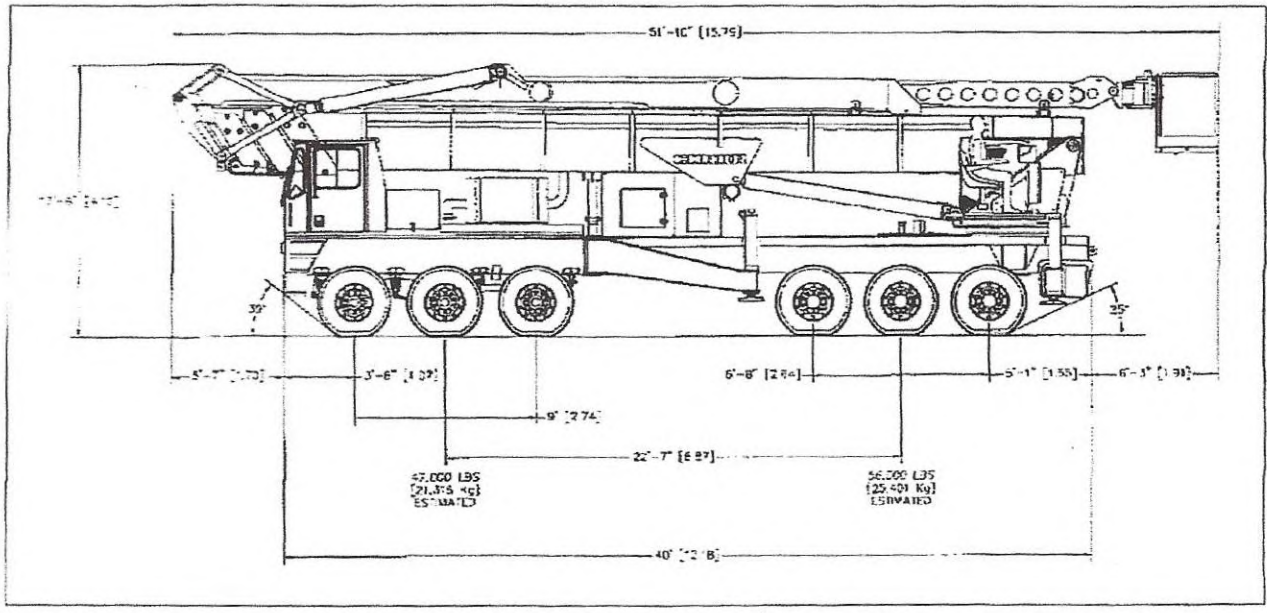


Figure 2. Example Aerial Lift Crane to be Used During Construction (Roadable Length 52 Feet; Width 8 Feet 6 Inches)

The following is a summary of anticipated equipment to be used for each transmission-line construction activity.

- Survey work: pickup trucks or ATVs.
- Timber removal: pickup trucks, feller bunchers, dump trucks, wood chippers.
- Road construction: pickup trucks, bulldozers, motor graders, and water trucks.
- Hole digging, installation of directly embedded structures, or foundation installation: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, digger derrick trucks, hole diggers, bulldozers, concrete trucks, water trucks, cranes, hydro cranes, wagon rock drills, dump trucks, and front-end loaders.
- Hauling lattice steel members, tubular poles, braces, and hardware to the structure sites: steel haul trucks, carry alls, cranes, and forklifts.
- Assembly and erection of structures: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, carry alls, cranes, and a heavy lift helicopter.
- Wire installation: pickups, wire reel trailers, diesel tractors, cranes, 5-ton boom trucks, splicing trucks, three drum pullers, single drum pullers, tensioner, sagging dozers, carry-alls, static wire reel trailers, bucket trucks, and a light duty helicopter.
- Final cleanup, reclamation, and restoration: pickup trucks, 2-ton trucks, bulldozers, motor graders, dump trucks, front-end loaders, hydro-seed truck, and water trucks.

The highest level of traffic will be when the wire stringing operations begin while several other operations are occurring at the same time, which will likely include ROW clearing, installing foundations, hauling steel, and assembling and erecting structures. For the station work, the highest level of traffic will be during site grading and foundation installation. For the communication station sites, the highest level of traffic will be during grading and site preparation.

Detailed estimates of trips generated by transporting Project construction equipment will be provided by the construction contractor prior to construction.

### **3.1.3 Traffic Related to Timber Removal**

In forested areas, the Project will require removal of timber from the Project ROW and for construction and improvement of access roads. Specific timber harvest plans have not been finalized. Logs from timber clearing may be transported to nearby sawmills. Decisions regarding transportation routes for harvested timber will be made following completion of a timber harvest plan, and the number of log truck trips will be estimated when the timber harvest plan has been finalized. Logging slash will remain onsite if possible. For additional discussion regarding removal of timber in forested areas, see Exhibit K, Attachment K-2, ROW Clearing Assessment.

### **3.1.4 Impacts to V/C Ratios**

Based on the estimated trip generation numbers in Tables 4 and 6, a maximum of approximately 1,294 daily one-way vehicle trips are expected within any one construction spread. To facilitate traffic and other analyses, the two construction spreads are divided into smaller sections based on similar construction windows and seasonal weather restrictions. Not all construction sections will have the same number of concurrent construction activities, depending on how the construction contractor sequences and executes the Project. Some sections will have fewer daily vehicle trips. For the purposes of the traffic analysis, the spreads are divided into five sections with multi-use areas that could have additive traffic impacts. The sections are assumed to have approximately equal levels of activity. The 1,294 daily one-way trips per spread divided over five sections of more concentrated traffic results in 259 daily one-



## **ARTICLE 6.6 – PUBLIC STREET STANDARDS**

### **SECTION 6.6.001 - PURPOSE**

Upon the request of the La Grande City Council, a variety of street design standards have been reviewed and are now incorporated in the Land Development Code.

### **SECTION 6.6.002 - CLASS I IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS**

This classification will cover those streets that are designed to meet the standards for an expected life of twenty (20) years or more. The attached drawings shall be the minimum standard for those streets in this classification. All streets designated as Federal Aid Urban Streets (F.A.U.) shall be constructed under these design standards. Streets in this designation shall be constructed with sidewalks when at all possible in an effort to increase pedestrian safety. Collector streets are designed to withstand normal trucks of an HS 20 loading. Larger trucks are to utilize Arterial streets where at all possible. This level of development shall be the ultimate goal for all streets within the City of La Grande.

Possible means of financing available for this Class shall be methods A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H in Section 6.6.006.

#### **A. Advantages**

1. The construction life is extended to a period above other City standards.
2. The visible aesthetics in relationship to having curbs and a blacktop surface with landscaping or concrete driveways and a sidewalk is generally appealing to the public.
3. Easy maintenance for the Public Works Department for cleaning and minor repair.
4. Storm sewer drainage is confined within the bounds of the curbs during minor flooding periods.
5. Parking is restricted to a solid barrier, that being the curb; this restricts parking in the area on the back side of the curb and confines travel to the street surface.
6. Defined areas for possible cross walks, signs, power poles, and other utilities that are restricted to the outside areas behind the curbs.
7. It allows for a wide range of financing methods and is to City standards for a ten (10) year Bancroft bonding.
8. Provides a dust free surface.

#### **B. Disadvantages**

1. The extreme high level of cost that is incurred with this type of development.

### **SECTION 6.6.003 - CLASS II IMPROVEMENT LEVEL**

Streets constructed in this classification shall be constructed to the same standards as Class I Streets with the exception of the form of drainage system. These streets shall meet the standards as shown on the attached drawing. This level of construction shall be only utilized in substitution for Class I Streets when it is determined by the City Council at the recommendation of the City Engineer or Engineering Superintendent, that an adequate drainage system cannot be installed for a Class I Street.



Table 6. Construction Vehicle Trips per Day per Construction Spread

Construction Crew Type	Construction Vehicles					
	Light Construction Vehicles			Heavy Construction Vehicles		
	Number of Pickups/ Mechanic Trucks (per day)	Number of One-way Trips on Public Roads (per day)	Total One-way Trips (per day)	Number of Other Vehicles	Number of One-way Trips on Public Roads (per day)	Total One-way Trips (per day)
Substation Construction	20	2	40	5	2	10
ROW Clearing	9	4	36	5	4	20
Roads/ Pad Grading	9	4	36	9	2	18
Foundations	9	2	18	5	8	40
Tower Lacing (assembly)	27	2	54	0	0	0
Tower Setting (erection)	20	2	40	0	0	0
Wire Stringing	9	4	36	9	4	36
Restoration	3	2	6	0	0	0
Blasting	5	4	20	0	0	0
Material Delivery	20	8	160	12	2	24
Mechanic and Equipment Mgmt.	5	6	30	0	0	0
Refueling	0	0	0	5	4	20
Dust Control	0	0	0	5	4	20
Construction Inspection	5	8	40	0	0	0
Concrete Testing	5	4	20	0	0	0
Environmental Compliance	9	6	54	0	0	0
Surveyors	5	3	30	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	—	—	<b>620</b>	—	—	<b>188</b>

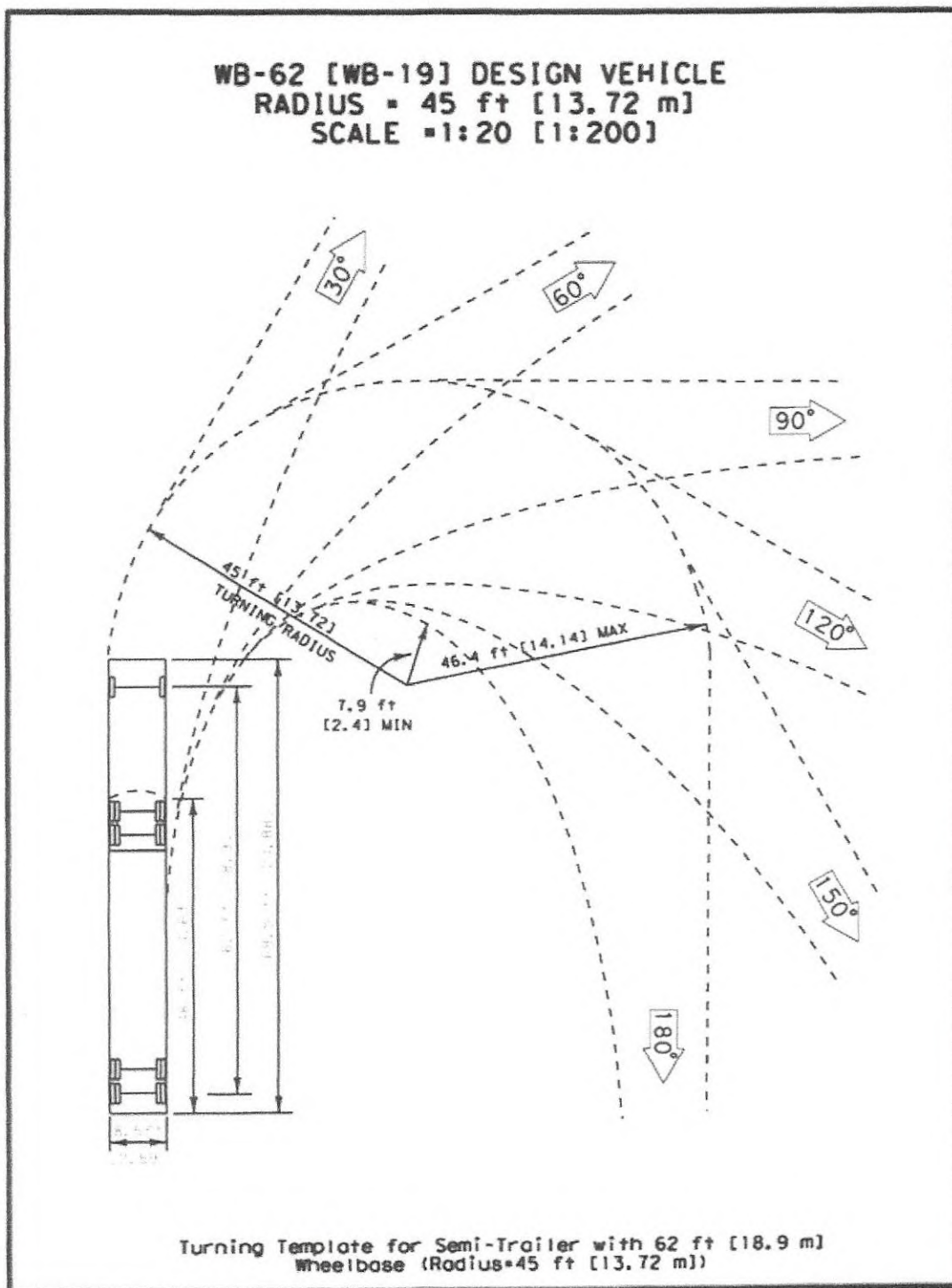
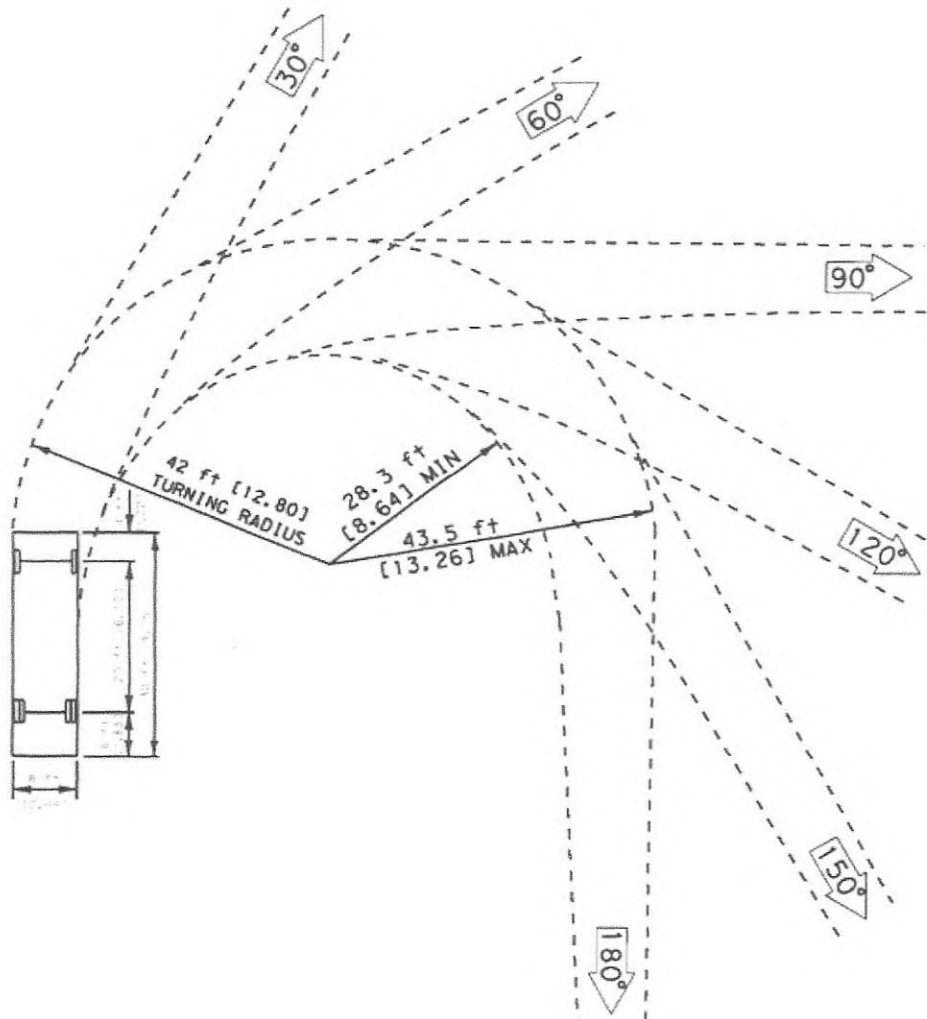


Figure 7-4. Turning Template for Semi-Trailer with 62 ft [18.9 m] Wheelbase, (not to scale). Click [here](#) to see a PDF of the image.

**SINGLE UNIT (SU) TRUCK DESIGN VEHICLE**  
**TURNING RADIUS = 42 ft [12.80 m]**  
**SCALE = 1:20 [1:200]**



Turning Template for Single Unit Trucks or Buses



Exhibit 15

**CITY OF LA GRANDE  
ORDINANCE NUMBER 3077  
SERIES 2009**

**AN ORDINANCE CONTROLLING VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC, PARADES  
AND PROCESSIONS AND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS; PROVIDING PENALTIES; AND  
REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2845, SERIES 1993; ALL AMENDING ORDINANCES  
AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;  
AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

THE CITY OF LA GRANDE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** This Ordinance may be cited as the City of La Grande Uniform Traffic Ordinance.

**Section 2.** APPLICABILITY OF STATE TRAFFIC LAWS.

Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 153, and the Oregon Vehicle Code, ORS Chapter 801 and 822, as now constituted, are adopted by reference. Violation of an adopted provision of those chapters is an offense against the City.

**Section 3.** DEFINITIONS

In addition to those definitions contained in the Oregon state Motor Vehicle Code, the following words or phrases, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning, shall mean:

a. Alley

A street or highway primarily intended to provide access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban areas and not intended for through vehicular traffic.

b. Bicycle

A bicycle is a vehicle that:

1. Is designed to be operated on the ground on wheels;
2. has a seat or saddle for use of the rider;
3. is designed to travel with not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground;
4. is propelled exclusively by human power; and,
5. has every wheel more than fourteen inches (14") in diameter or two (2) tandem wheels, either of which is more than fourteen inches (14") in diameter.

c. Bicycle Lane

That part of the highway, adjacent to the roadway, designated by official signs or markings for use by persons riding bicycles, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

d. Bicycle Path

A public way, not part of a highway, which is designated by official signs or markings for use by persons riding bicycles, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

e. Block

The part of one side of a street lying between the two (2) nearest cross streets.

f. Central Business District

a. City Regulation of Special Movement of Oversized Load

The applicant shall submit an application to the City Manager or designee, showing the terminal points of the purported movement; the proposed route; the nature of the movement requested, including the weight and dimensions of the vehicle, load, machine, building, or structure to be moved; the time, date and duration of the proposed movement.

b. Special Movement Permit

A permit shall be required to move any vehicle, structure, or load on, or to access a street when, after preparation for movement, the vehicle, structure or load exceeds fourteen feet (14') in height, requires the use of guy wires, or could result in the blockage of a street. An approved application may serve as a permit, and a copy of the approved application shall be provided to the applicant.

**Section 17. TRUCK ROUTES**

- a. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to use, drive or operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight of 26,000, pounds or more upon any street of the City of La Grande, Oregon, except upon posted truck routes.
- b. Any vehicle with a gross weight over 26,000, pounds specifically picking up deliveries or making deliveries to any business or residence located on a street that is not a truck route will be exempted if the vehicle is driven from the truck route to the destination in the shortest, most direct, and safest route.
- c. The use of Jacob brakes shall not be allowed within the city limits of La Grande, Oregon.
- d. Truck routes will be posted as follows:
  1. Walnut street north from the city limits to C Avenue;
  2. C Avenue east from Walnut Street to Gekeler Avenue;
  3. Gekeler Avenue east to the city limits;
  4. 12th street south from Gekeler Avenue to the city limits;
  5. 2nd Street south from the city limits to Adams Avenue;
  6. Monroe Avenue east from Spruce Street to Highway 82;
  7. Jackson Avenue east from Spruce Street, and
  8. Spruce Street south from the city limits to Monroe.

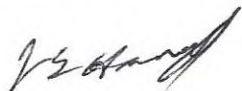
**Section 18. IMPOUNDMENT AND DETENTION OF VEHICLES**

- a. Whenever a vehicle is placed in a manner or location that constitutes an obstruction to traffic or a hazard to public safety, a police officer or enforcement officer shall order the owner or operator of the vehicle to remove said vehicle. If the vehicle is unattended, the officer or enforcement officer may cause the vehicle to be towed and stored at the owner's expense. The owner shall be liable for the costs of towing and storing, notwithstanding that the vehicle was parked by another or that the vehicle was initially parked in a safe manner but subsequently became an obstruction or hazard.



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

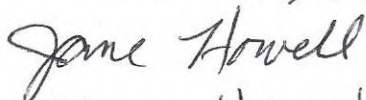


PRINTED NAME James E. Howell II

ADDRESS 482 Modelaire Dr

EMAIL jhowell12@frontier.com

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME Jane Howell

ADDRESS 482 Modelaire DR

EMAIL d.janehowell@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

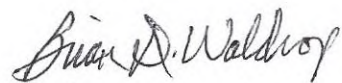


PRINTED NAME Lisa Waldrop

ADDRESS 475 Modelaire Dr.

EMAIL ldjw62@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

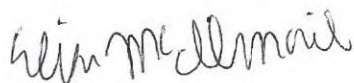


PRINTED NAME BRIAN D. WALDROP

ADDRESS 475 MODELAIRES DR.

EMAIL bdwaldrop58@gmail.com

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME EUSE MCILMAIL

ADDRESS 476 MODELAIRES DR.

EMAIL mcilmail154@hotmail.com




I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

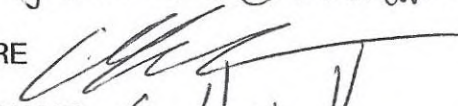
  
Jessie Huxell  
472 Modelaire Dr. LaGrande OR 97850

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

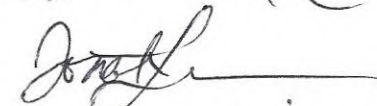
  
C. Huxell  
472 Modelaire Dr. LG, OR 97850  
CHRIS Huxell @ EMAIL. Com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

  
Jonah Lindeman  
702 Modelaire LaGrande  
jlindeman@rpi.ag

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

Marie Skinner  
Marie Skinner  
208 3rd LaGrande  
marieskinner@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

Blake Bars  
Blake Bars  
1101 G Ave La Grande  
blakebars@gmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

*D. Dale Mammen*

PRINTED NAME

D. Dale Mammen

ADDRESS

405 BRISA, La Grande, OR

EMAIL

d.mammen@conl.com

SIGNATURE

*Jim Kreider*

PRINTED NAME

Jim Kreider

ADDRESS

60366 Marvin Rd  
La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

jkreider@campblackdog.org

SIGNATURE

*Judie Arritola*

PRINTED NAME

Judie Arritola

ADDRESS

603 Modelaire La Grande, OR

EMAIL

jtol@charter.net

SIGNATURE

*Pasco Arritola*

PRINTED NAME

Pasco Arritola

ADDRESS

603 Modelaire La Grande, OR

EMAIL

PJTOLA@CHARTER.NET

SIGNATURE

*John Barutz*

PRINTED NAME

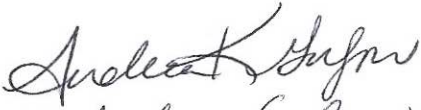
John Barutz


ADDRESS


484 Hawthorne LG, OR 97850


EMAIL


I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Andrea Gulzow  
ADDRESS 486 Hawthorne DR, LA Grande  
EMAIL foreverfamily33@aol.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Frances E. Lillard  
ADDRESS 471 Modelaire Dr. L.G.  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Brent H. Smith  
ADDRESS 410 Allium St  
EMAIL smithbrent@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME M. Jeannette Smith  
ADDRESS 410 Allium Street  
EMAIL jeannetterampf@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME KIMBERLEY HEITSTUMAN  
ADDRESS 2409 CENTURY LP, LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL kimheitstuman@hotmail.com



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE: 

PRINTED NAME Shawn K. Mangum

ADDRESS 2905 E. M. Ave,

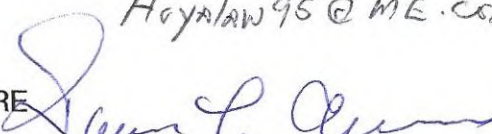
EMAIL Hoyalan95@ME.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL


  
CONNIE L. ALLEN 541-9637720  
410 BALSA STREET LAGRANDE, OREGON 97858  
N/A

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

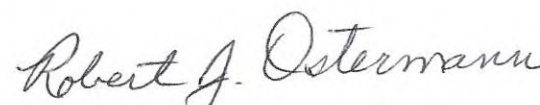
  
Linda Snyder  
491 Modelaire Dr

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL


  
Robert J. Ostermann  
495 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

  
Robin J. Ostermann  
495 Modelaire Dr La Grande, OR 97850

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

*Jonathan D. White*

PRINTED NAME

Jonathan D. White

ADDRESS

485 Modelaire Dr

EMAIL

jondwhite418@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Robin Stedfeld*

PRINTED NAME

Robin Stedfeld

ADDRESS

485 Modelaine Dr. La Grande

EMAIL

rstedfeld@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE

*Rita Allen*

PRINTED NAME

Rita Allen

ADDRESS

410 Balsa St. La Grande Or.

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*Ruth Schumacher Yeates*

PRINTED NAME

Ruth Schumacher Yeates

ADDRESS

408 Sunset Drive La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

ruthschumacheryeates@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*John Yeates*

PRINTED NAME

JOHN YEATES

ADDRESS

408 SUNSET DR. LA GRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL

jyeates52@gmail.com



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME LOIS BARRY

ADDRESS P.O. Box 566, La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL loisbarry31@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME CATHY WEBB

ADDRESS 1708 CEDAR ST. LAGRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL thunkski@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Jack L. Martin

ADDRESS 1412 Gilcrest Dr. LaGrande

EMAIL Buff Martin 27 @GMail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME GERALDINE BRASETH-PALMER

ADDRESS 1602 GILDEREST DRIVE LA GRANDE, Ore 97850

EMAIL 

SIGNATURE 


PRINTED NAME Jean BAPH


ADDRESS 1509 MADISON AVE LaGrande, OR 97850

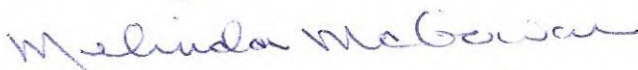
EMAIL Jbaph19@gmail.com





I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Damon Sexton  
ADDRESS 401 Balsa St La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL Sexton.damon@gmail.com


SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Cory Sexton  
ADDRESS 401 Balsa Street La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Corytrix@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Melinda McGowan  
ADDRESS 602 Sunset Dr.  
EMAIL melindamegowan@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Keith D. Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Keithdhudson@gmail.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Laura Elly Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL ellyhudson@gmail.com

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Gary D. Pierson

ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850

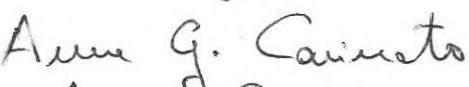
EMAIL —

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME LYNN WHEELER DUNCAN

ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850

EMAIL rlwd1910@gmail.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME Anne G. Cavinato

ADDRESS 86 Hawthorne Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

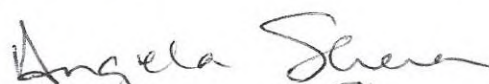
EMAIL acavinat@ecu.edu

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME JOE HORST

ADDRESS 86 HAWTHORNE DR. LA GRANDE OR.

EMAIL joehorst@comi.com

SIGNATURE 

PRINTED NAME ANGELA Sherer

ADDRESS 91 W. Hawthorne Dr. LaGrande, OR 97850

EMAIL asherer@frontier.com



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE

*Robert J. Sherer*

PRINTED NAME

Robert J. Sherer

ADDRESS

97 W Hawthorne Dr, La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

asherer@frontier.com

SIGNATURE

*Heather M. Null*

PRINTED NAME

Heather M. Null

ADDRESS

492 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

hnull@comi.com

SIGNATURE

*Bert R. Freewing*

PRINTED NAME

Bert R. Freewing

ADDRESS

709 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

jeanfreewing@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Lindsey McCullough*

PRINTED NAME

Lindsey McCullough

ADDRESS

406 Balsa St., La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

lindz\_mm91@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL



I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE *Merle E. Comfort*  
PRINTED NAME MERLE E. COMFORT  
ADDRESS 209 SCORPIO DRIVE LA GRANDE OR 97850  
EMAIL merlecomfort@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Robin L. Maille*  
PRINTED NAME Robin Maille  
ADDRESS 401 Cedar St., La Grande  
EMAIL r-maille@icloud.com

SIGNATURE *Bruce C Kevan*  
PRINTED NAME Bruce C Kevan  
ADDRESS 1511 W Ave LG  
EMAIL bruce.kevan@lagrandesd.org

SIGNATURE *Carol S. Summers*  
PRINTED NAME CAROL S. SUMMERS  
ADDRESS 2811 Bekeler Ln - La Grande, OR  
EMAIL carolsummers1938@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Caroline Kaye Juniper*  
PRINTED NAME Caroline Kaye Juniper  
ADDRESS 406 NTH ST. LaGrande - OR 97850  
EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding the use of the Modelaire/Hawthorne Loop and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the plan to use this residential loop for the project. As one of the undersigned I strongly oppose our community being used as a primary access point to build this transmission line. Furthermore, I oppose the current proposed preferred route close to the city limits of La Grande because it impacts in various other ways the daily lives of many residents of our community.

SIGNATURE *Gerald D. Juniper*  
PRINTED NAME Gerald Darwin Juniper  
ADDRESS 406 4<sup>th</sup> St. LaGrande, OR. 97850  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

## **TARDAEWETHER Kellen \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Dale Mammen <dmammen@eoni.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 5:28 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposal Order 5/23/2019  
**Attachments:** Scan 2019-8-15 17.14.06.pdf

To: Chairman Beyeler and Members of the Council

Find attached a letter sign by me and 46 other residents of La Grande expressing our concerns regarding the B2H Project and requesting that EFSC Deny the Site Certificate.

I have also sent a bound copy of this material by US Postal Service.

Virginia L. Mammen  
405 Balsa  
La Grande, Oregon 97850



August 10, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E.  
Salem, Oregon. 97301

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018:Draft Proposed Order.

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

My comment is about the predicted noise levels resulting from construction and operation of the proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project. I would like to address the noise coming from the blasting and rock breaking specifically above the area at the top of Modelaire Drive 1 both to the north and the south of that area and also the construction traffic noise that that will impact the west hills and the area below.

In Exhibit X page X-9 3.3.1.1 2 blasting and rock breaking is mentioned saying that "Modern blasting techniques include the electronically controlled ignition of multiple small explosive charges in an area of rock that are delayed fractions of second, resulting in a total event that is generally less than a second. Impulse (instantaneous) noise from blasts could reach up to 140dBA at the blast location or over 90 dBA within 500 feet." This sounds oh so "don't worry about it, it will be OK just over in a split second." Living in this area off Modelaire Drive, I don't find this at all comforting. And the fact that this will be overseen by properly licensed personnel and all of the necessary authorizations doesn't help anything either.

The area in question, which for such inordinate construction is extremely close to many residents, has been my home for over 50 years and during

related medical problems and exhibit various reactions to loud noises.<sup>10</sup>  
These children also live in the neighborhoods to be affected by the noise so they would be impacted coming and going to school, at home and also while at school. To impose the constant possibility of loud noises is cruel, disrespectful and totally unacceptable. <sup>11</sup>

For a project like this involving blasting and heavy machinery noise so close to homes, schools, and medical facilities impacting hundreds of peoples' daily lives, the day to day agitation, wondering what is coming next, fear and being on constant alert are not just addressed by some type of mitigation but must be addressed by a route that is much less impactful to peoples' safety, sanity, and health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia L. Mammen".

Virginia L. Mammen

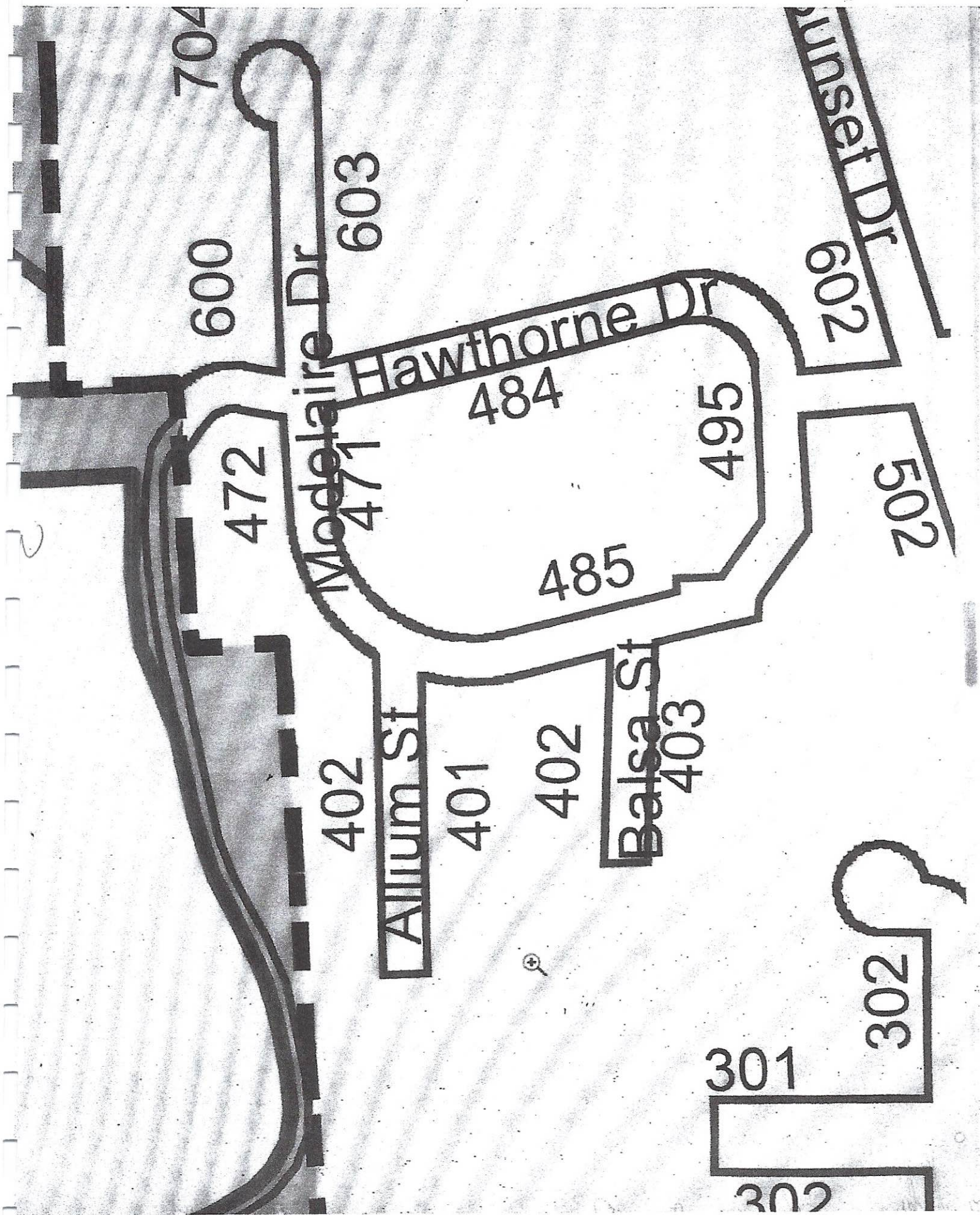
405 Balsa

La Grande, Oregon 97850

gmammen@eoni.com



N





### 3.3 Predicted Noise Levels

OAR 345-021-0010(1)(x)(A): Predicted noise levels resulting from construction and operation of the proposed facility.

#### 3.3.1 Construction Noise

##### 3.3.1.1 Predicted Construction Noise Levels

Project construction will occur sequentially, moving along the length of the Project route, or in other areas such as near access roads, structure sites, conductor pulling sites, and staging and maintenance areas. Overhead transmission line construction is typically completed in the following stages, but various construction activities may overlap, with multiple construction crews operating simultaneously:

- Site access and preparation
- Installation of structure foundations
- Erecting of support structures
- Stringing of conductors, shield wire, and fiber-optic ground wire

The following subsections discuss certain construction activities that will periodically generate audible noise, including blasting and rock breaking, implosive devices used during conductor stringing, helicopter operations, and vehicle traffic.

#### **Blasting and Rock Breaking**

Blasting is a short-duration event as compared to rock removal methods, such as using track rig drills, rock breakers, jackhammers, rotary percussion drills, core barrels, or rotary rock drills. Modern blasting techniques include the electronically controlled ignition of multiple small-explosive charges in an area of rock that are delayed fractions of second, resulting in a total event duration that is generally less than a second. Impulse (instantaneous) noise from blasts could reach up to 140 dBA at the blast location or over 90 dBA within 500 feet.

Lattice tower foundations for the Project typically will be installed using drilled shafts or piers; however, if hard rock is encountered within the planned drilling depth, blasting may be required to loosen or fracture the rock to reach the required depth to install the structure foundations. Final blasting locations will not be identified until an investigative geotechnical survey of the analysis area is conducted during the detailed design.

The contracted blasting specialist will prepare a blasting plan that demonstrate compliance with applicable state and local blasting regulations, including the use of properly licensed personnel and the acquisition of necessary authorizations. The Framework Blasting Plan is set forth in Exhibit G, Attachment G-5.

#### **Implosive Devices**

An implosive conductor splice consists of a split-second detonation with sound and flash. Implosive splicing activities are anticipated to be limited to daytime hours. A blasting plan will be developed by an individual certified and licensed to perform the work. The plan will communicate all safety and technical requirements including, but not limited to, delineation of the controlled access zone and distance away from residences.



## **Public Services**

### **OAR 345-022-0110**

This standard ensures that the proposed facility will not affect the ability of service providers in local communities to provide public services, such as fire protection or education. The applicant must assess the proposed facility's need for water and for disposal of wastewater, storm water and solid waste. The applicant must also evaluate the expected population increases in local communities resulting from construction and operation of the facility; and must address all permanent and temporary impacts of the facility on housing, traffic safety, police and fire protection, health care and schools. The Council must determine whether the applicant has identified potential adverse impacts to service providers and proposed adequate mitigation to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effect on the ability of a service provider to provide services. In considering the impacts, the Council solicits comments from affected local governments, fire or police departments, school districts and health care agencies.

## **Waste Minimization**

### **OAR 345-022-0120**

This standard requires the Council to evaluate the applicant's proposal to minimize solid waste and wastewater generated by construction and operation of the proposed facility. The standard requires recycling of wastes, if feasible, or proper waste disposal if recycling is not feasible.

The applicant must evaluate the types of waste products that would be produced during construction and operation of the proposed facility and estimate the amounts or volume of waste products. The applicant must propose appropriate methods to handle the waste through collection, storage and disposal. Compliance with the standard assures that the applicant will reduce the amount of waste generated and dispose of waste in a responsible manner.

## **Need for a Facility**

### **OAR 345-023-0005**

This standard requires the applicant for non-generating energy facilities (such as electric transmission lines) to demonstrate the need for the proposed facility. The Council's rules allow an applicant to demonstrate need for a non-generating facility through one of several methods, including the "Least-Cost Plan Rule" (OAR 345-023-0020) or the "System Reliability Rule for Electric Transmission Lines" (OAR 345-023-0030). Under the Least-Cost Plan Rule, the applicant meets this standard if the proposed transmission line was included in an Integrated Resource Plan that has been acknowledged by the Oregon Public Utilities Commission (OPUC). More information about the OPUC and the Integrated Resource Plan acknowledgement process can be found at [www.puc.state.or.us](http://www.puc.state.or.us).

## **Specific Standards for Wind Facilities**

### **OAR 345-024-0010 and 345-024-0015**

This standard requires the Council to evaluate applications for wind energy facilities to ensure that applicants can design, construct and operate the facility so that the public is not endangered by moving turbine blades or electrical equipment, and that the applicant can design, construct and operate wind turbines to prevent structural failure that could endanger public safety. Siting standards for wind facilities also require the applicant to reduce cumulative adverse environmental effects in the vicinity by using existing roads, if possible, placing collection lines underground, designing the facility to avoid impacts to vulnerable wildlife in the area (especially birds and bats), and designing the facility to minimize adverse visual features, including using the minimum amount of lighting necessary to meet the requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration for protecting aircraft.

## **Specific Standards for Transmission Lines**

### **OAR 345-024-0090**

This standard requires that the Council evaluate transmission lines under Council jurisdiction to ensure they are designed, constructed and operated to limit the strength of electromagnetic fields in areas where those lines are accessible to the public.





[Home](#) [Business](#) [Voting](#) [Elections](#) [State Archives](#) [Audits](#)

## Department of Environmental Quality

### Chapter 340

#### Division 35

#### NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS

**340-035-0035****Noise Control Regulations for Industry and Commerce****(1) Standards and Regulations:**

(a) **Existing Noise Sources.** No person owning or controlling an existing industrial or commercial noise source shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the statistical noise levels generated by that source and measured at an appropriate measurement point, specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, exceed the levels specified in Table 7, except as otherwise provided in these rules. [Table not included. See ED. NOTE.]

**(b) New Noise Sources:**

(A) **New Sources Located on Previously Used Sites.** No person owning or controlling a new industrial or commercial noise source located on a previously used industrial or commercial site shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the statistical noise levels generated by that new source and measured at an appropriate measurement point, specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, exceed the levels specified in Table 8, except as otherwise provided in these rules. For noise levels generated by a wind energy facility including wind turbines of any size and any associated equipment or machinery, subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(iii) applies. [Table not included. See ED. NOTE.]

**(B) New Sources Located on Previously Unused Site:**

(i) No person owning or controlling a new industrial or commercial noise source located on a previously unused industrial or commercial site shall cause or permit the operation of that noise source if the noise levels generated or indirectly caused by that noise source increase the ambient statistical noise levels, L10 or L50, by more than 10 dBA in any one hour, or exceed the levels specified in Table 8, as measured at an appropriate measurement point, as specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule, except as specified in subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(iii).

(ii) The ambient statistical noise level of a new industrial or commercial noise source on a previously unused industrial or commercial site shall include all noises generated or indirectly caused by or attributable to that source including all of its related activities. Sources exempted from the requirements of section (1) of this rule, which are identified in subsections (5)(b)-(f), (j), and (k) of this rule, shall not be excluded from this ambient measurement.

**(iii) For noise levels generated or caused by a wind energy facility:**

(I) The increase in ambient statistical noise levels is based on an assumed background L50 ambient noise level of 26 dBA or the actual ambient background level. The person owning the wind energy facility may conduct measurements to determine the actual ambient L10 and L50 background level.

(II) The "actual ambient background level" is the measured noise level at the appropriate measurement point as specified in subsection (3)(b) of this rule using generally accepted noise engineering measurement practices. Background noise measurements shall be obtained at the appropriate measurement point, synchronized with wind speed measurements of hub height conditions at the nearest wind turbine location. "Actual ambient background level" does not include noise generated or caused by the wind energy facility.

(III) The noise levels from a wind energy facility may increase the ambient statistical noise levels L10 and L50 by more than 10 dBA (but not above the limits specified in Table 8), if the person who owns the noise sensitive property executes a legally effective easement or real covenant that benefits the property on which the wind energy facility is located. The easement or covenant must authorize the wind energy facility to increase the ambient statistical noise levels, L10 or L50 on the sensitive property by more than 10 dBA at the appropriate measurement point.

[OARD Home](#)[Search Current Rules](#)[Search Filings](#)[Access the Oregon Bulletin](#)[Access the Annual Compilation](#)[FAQ](#)[Rules Coordinator / Rules](#)[Writer Login](#)



(2) Compliance. Upon written notification from the Director, the owner or controller of an industrial or commercial noise source operating in violation of the adopted rules shall submit a compliance schedule acceptable to the Department. The schedule will set forth the dates, terms, and conditions by which the person responsible for the noise source shall comply with the adopted rules.

(3) Measurement:

(a) Sound measurements procedures shall conform to those procedures which are adopted by the Commission and set forth in Sound Measurement Procedures Manual (NPCS-1), or to such other procedures as are approved in writing by the Department;

(b) Unless otherwise specified, the appropriate measurement point shall be that point on the noise sensitive property, described below, which is further from the noise source:

(A) 25 feet (7.6 meters) toward the noise source from that point on the noise sensitive building nearest the noise source;

(B) That point on the noise sensitive property line nearest the noise source.

(4) Monitoring and Reporting:

(a) Upon written notification from the Department, persons owning or controlling an industrial or commercial noise source shall monitor and record the statistical noise levels and operating times of equipment, facilities, operations, and activities, and shall submit such data to the Department in the form and on the schedule requested by the Department. Procedures for such measurements shall conform to those procedures which are adopted by the Commission and set forth in Sound Measurement Procedures Manual (NPCS-1);

(b) Nothing in this rule shall preclude the Department from conducting separate or additional noise tests and measurements. Therefore, when requested by the Department, the owner or operator of an industrial or commercial noise source shall provide the following:

(A) Access to the site;

(B) Reasonable facilities, where available, including but not limited to, electric power and ladders adequate to perform the testing;

(C) Cooperation in the reasonable operation, manipulation, or shutdown of various equipment or operations as needed to ascertain the source of sound and measure its emission.

(5) Exemptions: Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (1)(b)(B)(ii) of this rule, the rules in section (1) of this rule shall not apply to:

(a) Emergency equipment not operated on a regular or scheduled basis;

(b) Warning devices not operating continuously for more than 5 minutes;

(c) Sounds created by the tires or motor used to propel any road vehicle complying with the noise standards for road vehicles;

(d) Sounds resulting from the operation of any equipment or facility of a surface carrier engaged in interstate commerce by railroad only to the extent that such equipment or facility is regulated by pre-emptive federal regulations as set forth in Part 201 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, promulgated pursuant to Section 17 of the Noise Control Act of 1972, 86 Stat. 1248, Public Law 92-576; but this exemption does not apply to any standard, control, license, regulation, or restriction necessitated by special local conditions which is approved by the Administrator of the EPA after consultation with the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to procedures set forth in Section 17(c)(2) of the Act;

(e) Sounds created by bells, chimes, or carillons;

(f) Sounds not electronically amplified which are created by or generated at sporting, amusement, and entertainment events, except those sounds which are regulated under other noise standards. An event is a noteworthy happening and does not include informal, frequent, or ongoing activities such as, but not limited to, those which normally occur at bowling alleys or amusement parks operating in one location for a significant period of time;

(g) Sounds that originate on construction sites.

(h) Sounds created in construction or maintenance of capital equipment;

(i) Sounds created by lawn care maintenance and snow removal equipment;

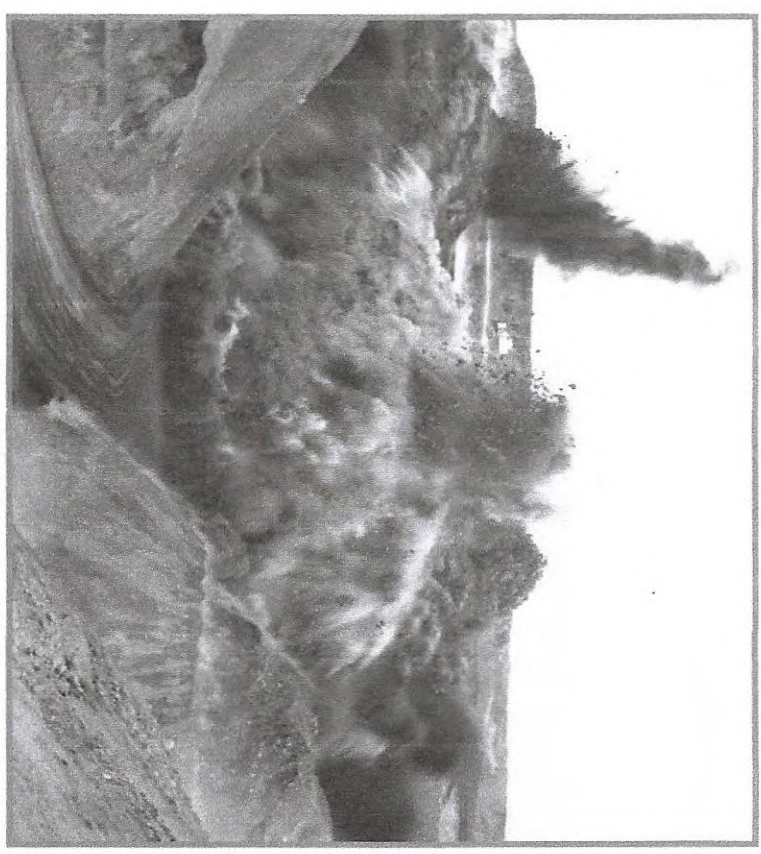
(j) Sounds generated by the operation of aircraft and subject to pre-emptive federal regulation. This exception does not apply to aircraft engine testing, activity conducted at the airport that is not directly related to flight operations, and any other activity not pre-emptively regulated by the federal government or controlled under OAR 340-035-0045;

# Controlling the Adverse Effects of Blasting

This module addresses the control of offsite impacts that result from blasting, namely:

- vibrations,
- airblast, and
- flyrock.

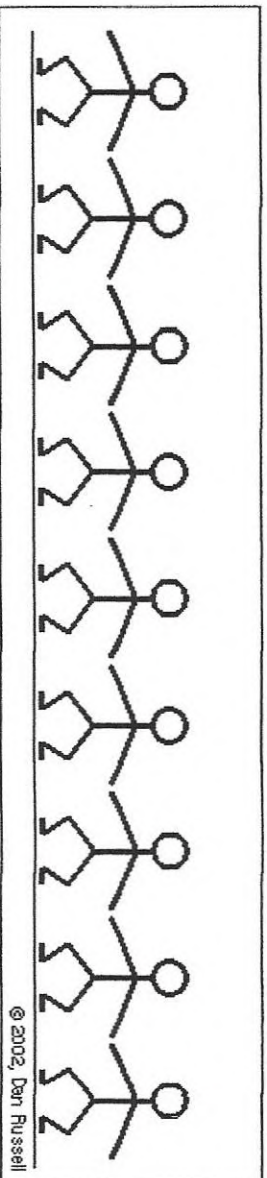
Much of the information in the module is derived from the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The performance standards apply to all surface coal mines. Similar standards have been adopted on some State and local levels and applied to non-coal blasting operations such as quarrying and construction.





## Part I: Ground Vibrations, Airblast, and Flyrock

Explosive energy is used to break rock. However, the use of this energy is not 100-percent efficient. Some of the energy escapes into the atmosphere to generate **airblast or air vibrations**. Some of the energy also leaves the blast site through the surface soil and bedrock in the form of **ground vibrations**.



Both air and ground vibrations create waves that disturb the material in which they travel. When these waves encounter a structure, they cause it to shake. Ground vibrations enter the house through the basement and airblast enters the house through the walls and roof.

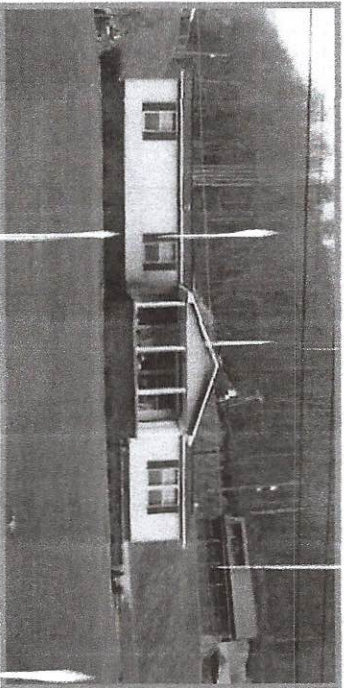
Airblast may be audible (noise) or in-audible (concussion). When outside a house the blast may be heard because of the noise, however noise has little impact on the structure. The concussion wave causes the structure to shake and rattles objects hanging on walls or sitting on shelves. This "interior noise" will alarm and startle people living in the house.

**Flyrock** is debris ejected from the blast site that is traveling through the air or along the ground. Flyrock the single most dangerous adverse effect that can cause property damage and personal injury or death.



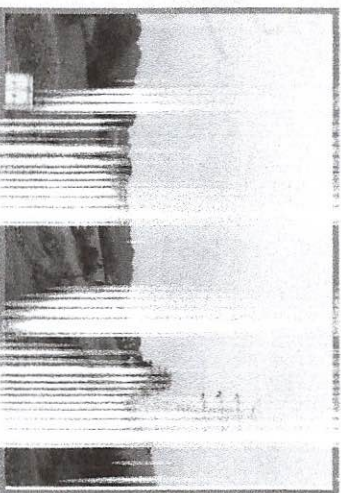
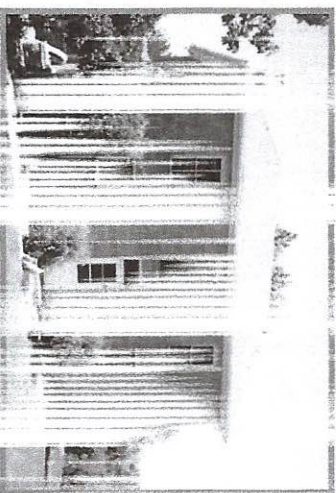
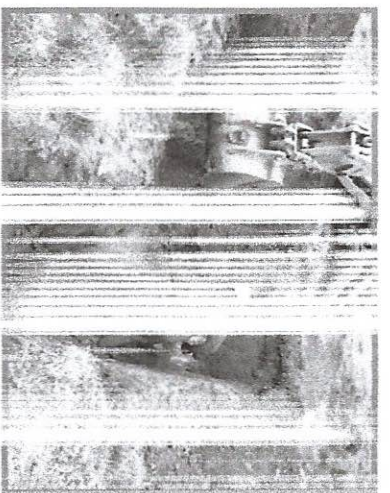
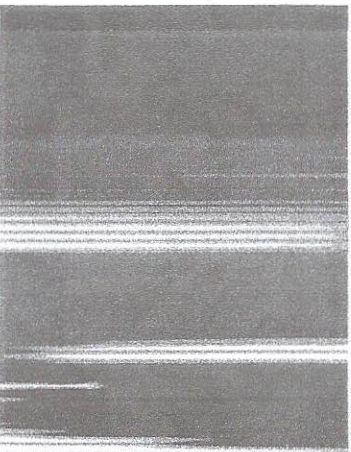
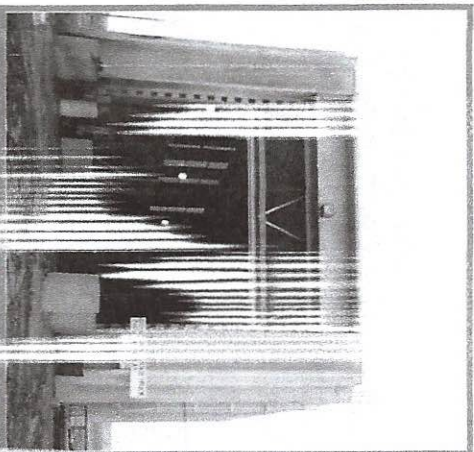
# Blasting Impacts on Structures

Both above-ground and below-ground structures are susceptible to vibration impacts. Structures can include onsite mine offices and buildings, as well as offsite residences, schools, churches, power-transmission lines, and buried pipelines. Some of these structures may include historic or cultural features sensitive to even low levels of vibrations.



It is important to understand:

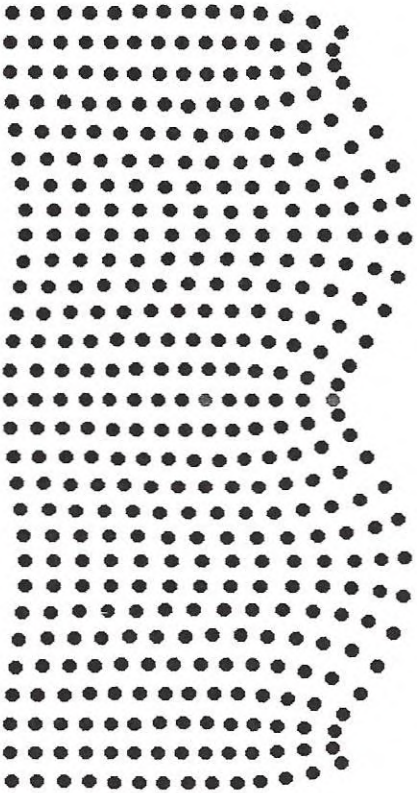
1. the causes of ground vibrations and airblast, and
2. what practices can be followed to control and minimize the adverse effects





## Ground Vibrations

Ground vibrations propagate away from a blast site as Rayleigh (or surface) waves. These waves form a disturbance in the ground that displaces particles of soil or rock as they pass by. Particle motions are quite complicated. At the ground surface (free boundary), measured particle motions have the greatest displacements, and displacements decrease with depth (see the illustration below). At a depth of between 20 to 50 feet below ground surface, particle displacements are barely detectable. Structures that are well coupled to the ground tend to move with this motion; structures buried in the ground are less affected by surface motions.



©1999, Daniel A. Russell

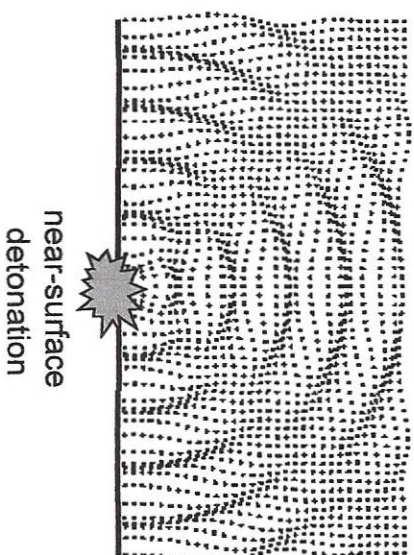
Ground vibrations are measured in terms of **particle velocity** and are reported in inches per second (ips) or the speed at which a particle of soil or rock moves.

At typical blasting distances from residential structures, the ground only moves with displacements equal to the thickness of a piece of writing paper. In terms of displacement, this equates to hundredths of an inch; visually, such movement cannot be detected.

# Airblast

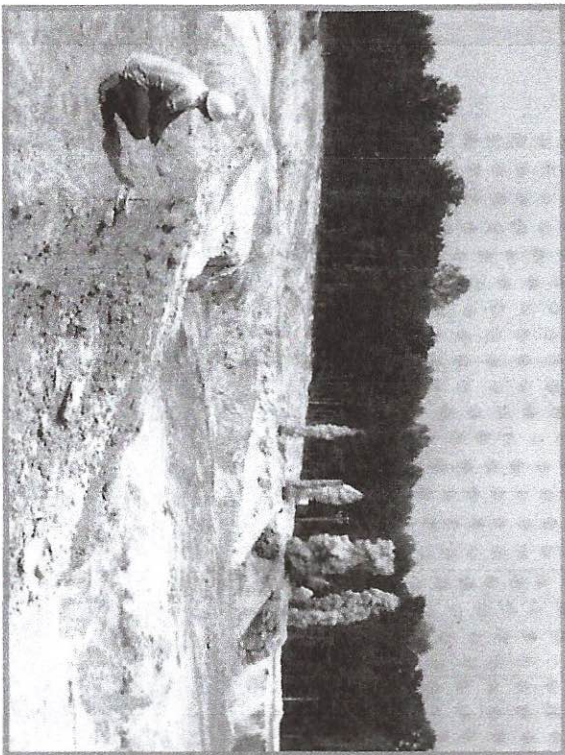
2 Airblast is measured as a pressure in pounds per square  
5 inch (psi) and is often reported in terms of **decibels (dB)**.

Airblast is a pressure wave that that may be audible or in-audible. Elevated airblast levels are generated when explosive energy in the form gases escape from the detonating blast holes. Energy escapes either through the top stemming or through fractures in the rock along the face or at the ground surface.



Airblast radiates outward from the blast site in all directions and can travel long distances. Sound waves travel much slower (1,100 ft/s) than ground vibrations (about 5,000 – 20,000 ft/s). Hence, airblast arrives at offsite structures later than do ground vibrations.

Both ground vibrations and airblast cause structures to shake structures. Occupants in structures that are located far from a blast may experience shaking from vibration and airblast as two separate, closely spaced events. This can be particularly bothersome, as it prolongs the duration of structure shaking and leads the property owner to think that two separate blasts occurred.





# Structure Response

As ground and air vibrations reach a structure, each will cause it to shake. Structure response is dependant on the vibration characteristics (frequency and amplitude) and structure type.

Ground Vibrations enter the house through the basement. This is like shaking the bottom of a flag pole. Movement at the top of the pole depends on how (frequency) and how hard (amplitude) the bottom of the pole is shaken. If shaken at just the right pace, or at the pole's natural frequency, the top will move significantly compared to the bottom. Motion at the top is amplified from the bottom motion.

All blast damage studies have measured incoming ground vibrations at the ground surface. The observed structure amplifications were typically between 1 to 4 times the ground vibration. Structure response below ground level is the same or less than the incoming vibrations

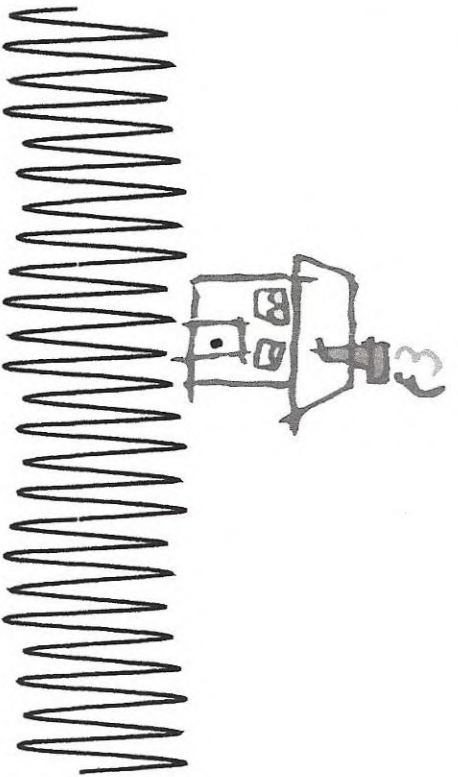
Airblast enters the house through the roof and walls. Like ground vibrations, the frequency and amplitude of the vibrations affect structure response. However the low frequency events (concussion) that most strongly affect structures is normally only a one or two cycle event.

Due to the different arrival times of ground and air vibrations, occupants may feel two distinct impacts on the house.

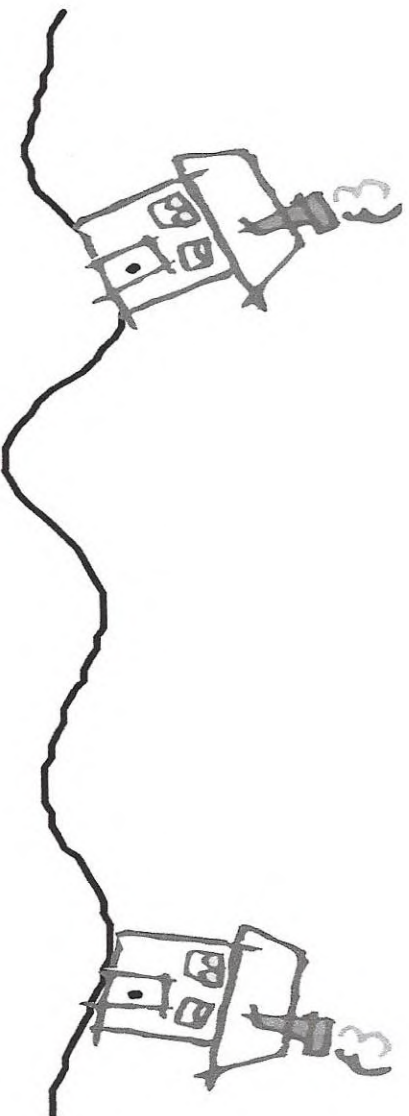


# Ground Vibration Structure Response

Exhibit 59



On the other hand, low-frequency wave cycles are long as compared with the dimensions of structures. Accordingly, low frequencies tend to efficiently couple energy into structures and to promote higher-amplitude, long-duration shaking.



High frequencies do not promote structure shaking. The length of a single high-frequency wave cycle is short as compared with the dimension of a structure. A structure does not significantly respond to high frequencies.



HEART  
HEALTHMIND &  
MOOD

PAIN

STAYING  
HEALTHY

CANCER

DISEASES &  
CONDITIONSMEN'S  
HEALTHWOMEN'S  
HEALTH

LICENSING

Harvard Men's Health Watch

## A noisy problem

***People often become more sensitive to noise as they age, which can affect their mental and physical health.***

Published: March, 2019



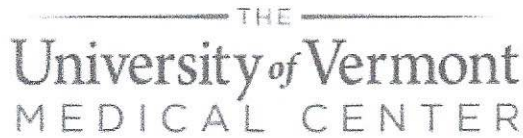
Image: © Juanmonino/Getty Images

Are you more sensitive to noises than you used to be? Do certain sounds now feel too loud and jarring? Don't worry; it's actually quite normal.

Age-related hearing loss is common among older adults and affects about two-thirds of men in their 70s and 85% of men ages 80 and older. Although it's not clear why, this can also make people hypersensitive to sounds that they used to tolerate easily, which in turn can affect their well-being.

"Exposure to noises from crowds, traffic, and other everyday sounds can become harder to tolerate and increase stress levels, leading to anxiety and a reduction in overall quality of life," says Dr. Stephanie Tompkins, an audiologist with Harvard-affiliated Massachusetts Eye and Ear. "As your sensitivity to noises increases, this can lead to greater isolation, too, as you may try to avoid potentially noisy places and situations."





(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/>)

UVM Medical Center Blog (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org>) » Blog (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/blog/>) »  
Quiet in the Hospital: How Noise...

# Quiet in the Hospital: How Noise Reduction Helps Patients Heal

on June 7, 2018 (<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/innovations/hospital-noise-reduction/>) in Innovation  
(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/category/innovations/>) by UVM Medical Center  
(<https://medcenterblog.uvmhealth.org/author/uvmmedcenter/>)

Noise. It is present in almost every aspect of our lives. From the traffic in the streets, to the fan that provides us white noise in the background to sleep, noise exists. Unfortunately, like stress, too much of it can have a negative impact on a person's health and rest. Some sounds we do like to hear, such as birds chirping, signaling spring in Vermont, but what about sounds in a hospital?

Many of us get admitted to hospitals when we are too sick to take care of ourselves at home. We expect exceptional care from physicians and nurses and, of course, to rest in order to help our bodies heal. We understand that some noises in a hospital are necessary for care; however, others simply aren't.

## The Sounds of a Hospital

Many organizations, including the UVM Medical Center, have high tech equipment, which greatly assists in the delivery of care to our patients, but can also be noisy. Sometimes, healthcare providers are the source of the noise as we interact and communicate with our patients and other health team members.

Another factor is visits from families and friends during visiting hours. It is difficult when one's roommate is trying to rest in the opposite bed. Yet, we need to be cognizant of noise in patient care areas as sounds can be magnified and misinterpreted, increasing agitation and even confusion for some patients.

We become accustomed to the noise; our patients are not.

## The Research on Noise, Quiet, and Healing

Research has shown that noise plays a negative role in healing and that decreasing noise in patient care areas aids in healing processes and helps facilitate speedier recoveries for patients. Patients are able to heal, sleep better and recover more quickly when able to rest. A quieter environment can also help decrease burnout for hospital staff.

Studies show that patients are more likely to develop negative side effects from a noisy hospital, such as sleep disturbances, elevated blood pressure and heart rate, and increased use of pain medications.

Noise can also increase annoyance levels for staff. One study indicated noise, such as talking inside and outside patient rooms, is the most common source of noise as well as visitors' voices, TVs, and behaviors of other patients.

Research concluded that best practices to eliminate noise from talking included staff education about noise reduction, public indicators such as sound monitors, a quiet time protocol, and lower cost environmental fixes, such as fixing noisy doors and squeaky wheels. Lastly, by introducing scripting with routine monitoring, patients' perception of quietness increased and the perception of noise decreased.

## How We Address Noise at the UVM Medical Center

We introduced the "Culture of Quiet" Organizational initiative. The Nursing Professional Governance Patient and Family Experience Global council continued this work. After convening a small task force of nurses and assessing current quiet strategies, we introduced the following tactics:

- Many hospital units have designated 'quiet hours' with automatically dimming of lights at quiet hour intervals.
- Signage is visible in most patient care areas to help keep patients, family, and visitors aware. Throughout the hospital, you will see signs with a relaxing pair of Adirondack chairs and the sun setting with details on when a unit has quiet hours.
- Many semi-private rooms have windows in doors, so doors can be closed allowing for patient rest.
- We offer headphones for TVs and earplugs to help minimize sounds.
- In-patient kits contain a sleeping mask and other comfort items that can be provided at time of admission. Each kit contains a card and explains, 'the best healing occurs in a quiet environment.'
- New education material is available for staff, patients and visitors-just ask to review the next time visiting.
- Some units offer white noise machines, others have this built in.
- Noisy equipment such as wheels and doors can be tagged and replaced.
- Our facility and distribution staff have changed their cleaning and supply delivery schedules to accommodate patient care.
- Healthcare teams within the hospital are focusing efforts to cluster patient care to minimize interruptions to provide restful moments.

## How you can help us.

We ask patients and visitors to hold us accountable when sounds are too loud. We want our community to alert us when noise levels are high and we will do what we can to minimize sound. In turn, we ask that all members of the healthcare team, patients, family, and friends be aware to keep voices soft, cell phones on vibrate, and hold each other accountable for these are the times of the day when our patients take pause to rest and positively impact their healing.



[Home](#)[Nursing Education](#)[Nursing News](#)[Featured Stories](#)[Headlines in Health](#)[Clinical Insights](#)[Nursing Career Development](#)[Membership](#)

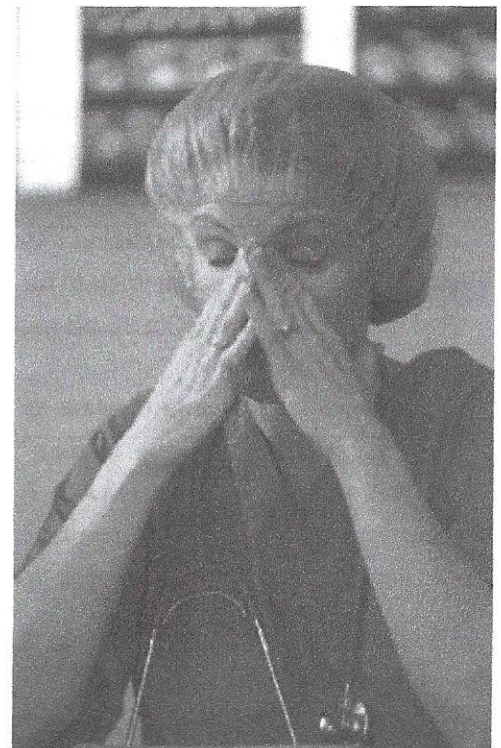
# Dangerous Decibels: Hospital Noise More Than a Nuisance

By Diane Sparacino, Staff Writer

Imagine a world where hospitals have become so noisy that the annoyance has topped hospital complaints, even more than for the tasteless, Jell-O-laden hospital food (Deardorff, 2011). If you're a nurse, you know that we're already there – with noise levels reaching nearly that of a chainsaw (Garcia, 2012). In fact, for more than five decades, hospital noise has seen a steady rise (ScienceDaily, 2005).

But it wasn't always that way. At one time, hospitals were virtually noise-free like libraries – respected spaces, preserved as quiet zones. The culture was such that a loud visitor might be silenced by a nurse's purposeful glare or sharply delivered "Shhh!" As early as 1859, the importance of maintaining a quiet environment for patients was a topic for discussion. In Florence Nightingale's book, "Notes on Nursing," she described needless noise as "the most cruel absence of care" (Deardorff, 2011).

Fast forward to 1995, when the World Health Organization (WHO) outlined its hospital noise guidelines, suggesting that patient room sound levels not exceed 35 decibels (dB). Yet since 1960, the average daytime hospital noise levels around the world have steadily risen to more than double the





acceptable level (from 57 to 72 dB), with nighttime levels increasing from 42 to 60 dB. WHO found that the issue was not only pervasive, but high noise levels remained fairly consistent across the board, despite the type of hospital (ScienceDaily, 2005).

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University began to look into the noise problem in 2003. They maintained that excessive noise not only hindered the ability for patients to rest, but raised the risk for medical errors. Other studies blamed hospital noise for a possible increase in healing time and a contributing factor in stress-related burnout among healthcare workers (ScienceDaily, 2005).

Technology is, of course, partly to blame. State-of-the-art machines, banks of useful alarms, respirators, generators, powerful ventilation systems and intercoms all add up to a lot of unwanted racket. When human voices are added to the mix, (i.e., staff members being forced to speak loudly over the steady din of medical equipment), it's anything but a restful environment. For the recovering patient in need of sleep, that can be a real issue (Deardorff, 2011).

Contributing to the problem, experts say, are the materials used in hospitals. Because they must be easily sanitized, surfaces cannot be porous where they could harbor disease-causing organisms. Rather than using noise-muffling materials like carpet, acoustic tiles and other soft surfaces, hospitals have traditionally been outfitted using smooth, hard surfaces – especially in patient rooms. Good for cleanliness – not so great for dampening sounds, which tend to bounce around the typical hospital (Deardorff, 2011).

Which brings us to the most recent research, published January 2012 in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*. In the report, Jordan Yoder, BSE, from the Pritzker School of Medicine, University of Chicago, and his colleagues associated elevated noise levels with “clinically significant sleep loss among hospitalized patients,” perhaps causing a delay in their recovery time (Garcia, 2012). During the 155-day study period, researchers examined hospital sound levels. The numbers far exceeded (WHO) recommendations for average hospital-room noise levels, with the peak noise at an average 80.3 dB – nearly as loud as a chainsaw or electric sander (85 dB), and well over the recommended maximum of 40 dB. And while nights tended to be quieter, they were still noisier than recommended allowances, with “a mean maximum sound level of 69.7 dB” (Garcia, 2012).

Perhaps most interestingly, the researchers broke down the sources of noise into categories: “Staff conversation (65%), roommates (54%), alarms (42%), intercoms (39%), and pagers (38%) were the most common sources of noise disruption reported by patients” (Garcia, 2012). “Despite the importance of sleep for recovery, hospital noise may put patients at risk for sleep loss and its associated negative effects,” they wrote. In addition, researchers found that the intensive care and surgical wards had some work to do in dampening noise levels, with ICU peaking at 67 dB and 42 dB for surgical areas. Both far exceeded WHO’s 30 dB patient room recommendation (Garcia, 2012).

Besides patient sleep deprivation, which itself can lead to a multitude of health problems including high blood sugar, high blood pressure and fatigue, studies have reported that elevated noise levels can increase heart and respiratory rates, blood pressure and cortisol levels. Recovery room noise causes patients to request more pain medication, and preterm infants “are at increased risk for hearing loss, abnormal brain and sensory development, and speech and language problems when exposed to prolonged and excessive noise” (Deardorff, 2011).

There is still more research to be done, of course, but Yoder and his colleagues had good news, as well; much of the hospital noise they identified is modifiable, suggesting that hospitals can take steps to successfully create a quieter environment for both patients and healthcare providers (Garcia, 2012).

Around the country, "quiet campaigns" have been launched by hospitals in an attempt to dampen nighttime noise. Besides dimming lights and asking staff to keep their voices down at night, they are working to eliminate overhead paging systems, replace wall and/or floor coverings – even the clang of metal trashcans. Northwestern's Prentice Women's Hospital in Chicago was built with noise reduction in mind, replacing the idea of centralized nursing stations with the advent of smaller, multiple stations (Deardorff, 2011)

Billed as "one of the nation's largest hospital construction projects," Palomar Medical Center in North San Diego County is a state-of-the-art facility that has been designed "to encourage quietness," according to Tina Pope, Palomar Health Service Excellence Manager. Slated to open its doors this August, the hospital will feature a new nursing call system to route calls directly to staff and help eliminate the need for overhead paging, de-centralized nursing stations and clear sig lines, allowing staff to check on patients without having to leave unit doors open. With measures already in place including "Quiet Hospital" badges on staff and posters at the entrance of every unit, a "Quiet at Night" campaign (9 p.m. – 6 a.m.), and a "Quiet Champions" program that encourages staff to report noise problems, Palomar is one of a growing number of hospitals working toward a new era of quiet.

## References:

Deardorff, J. (2011). Chicago Tribune.com. Chicago Tribune, Health. Hospitals drowning in noise. Retrieved from [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-04-24/health/ct-met-hospital-noise-20110424\\_1\\_hospitals-neonatal-intensive-care-unit-noise](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2011-04-24/health/ct-met-hospital-noise-20110424_1_hospitals-neonatal-intensive-care-unit-noise)

Garcia, J. (2012). Medscape.com. Medscape Today, News. Hospital Noise Results in Significant Patient Sleep Loss. Retrieved from <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/756575>

Sciencedaily.com. (2005). Rise In Hospital Noise Poses Problems For Patients And Staff. Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/11/051121101949.htm>

© 2015 AMN Healthcare, Inc. All Rights Reserved.





## Noises Are Truly Horrible For People Who Have PTSD

20 Mar '2018 [Sound](#)

Noise is a really big issue for PTSD survivors: people who have mental health problems because of their traumas. How are they connected?

Almost everybody has experienced a trauma. But some traumas are more scarring than others and can even result in long-lasting mental disorders like **PTSD**, which can have an extreme impact on someone's life. It's a disorder that can develop in the brain after a horrifying experience, like war or a car crash.

### Symptoms

The symptoms of PTSD are, to say the least, not pleasant. They range from nightmares about the traumatic events, disturbing thoughts and feelings, anxiety, trying to avoid anything that has something to do with the traumatic event, and an increase in the fight-or-flight response.

Around ten percent of the population suffers from PTSD, according to data from **NCBI**, a part of the US National Library of Medicine. And, remarkably enough, that percentage is the same for people who suffer from tinnitus (the sound of a constant beep in your ears). The NCBI clearly sees a link between the two.

PTSD survivors also suffer from the Exaggerated Startle Syndrome, with anxiety and actions in an extreme and irrational way too loud noises and bangs. And then there are the sounds that remind them of the sounds during the traumatic events, which can trigger memories of the





## Fear

PTSD can also cause a general fear of sounds: phonophobia, or a fear of some specific sounds: misophonia. Survivors of the disorder also are generally much more sensitive to sounds and perceive them as much louder than other people would.

All of this makes the life of people with PTSD very hard. If you think you are suffering from this, consult your doctor. Really, please do it. For yourself, and for the ones you love.

Do you have PTSD and would you like to tell your experiences to us? We are always very open and interested to hear what you have to say. And again: if you haven't done it yet, visit your doctor, please. Thank you!

[← Previous article](#)

[Next article →](#)

## Related articles





Front Psychol. 2013; 4: 578.

PMCID: PMC3757288

Published online 2013 Aug 30. doi: [10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00578](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2013.00578)

PMID: [24009598](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24009598/)

## Does noise affect learning? A short review on noise effects on cognitive performance in children

Maria Klatte, \* Kirstin Bergström, and Thomas Lachmann

Center for Cognitive Science, Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Laboratory, University of Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern, Germany

Edited by: Nicole Wetzel, University of Leipzig, Germany

Reviewed by: Patrik Sörqvist, University of Gävle, Sweden; Emily M. Elliott, Louisiana State University, USA

\*Correspondence: Maria Klatte, Department of Psychology, Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Laboratory, University of Kaiserslautern, Erwin-Schroedinger-Strasse 57, 67663 Kaiserslautern, Germany e-mail: [klatte@rhrk.uni-kl.de](mailto:klatte@rhrk.uni-kl.de)

This article was submitted to Developmental Psychology, a section of the journal Frontiers in Psychology.

Received 2013 May 14; Accepted 2013 Aug 12.

Copyright © 2013 Klatte, Bergström and Lachmann.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) or licensor are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.

### Abstract

The present paper provides an overview of research concerning both acute and chronic effects of exposure to noise on children's cognitive performance. Experimental studies addressing the impact of acute exposure showed negative effects on speech perception and listening comprehension. These effects are more pronounced in children as compared to adults. Children with language or attention disorders and second-language learners are still more impaired than age-matched controls. Noise-induced disruption was also found for non-auditory tasks, i.e., serial recall of visually presented lists and reading. The impact of chronic exposure to noise was examined in quasi-experimental studies. Indoor noise and reverberation in classroom settings were found to be associated with poorer performance of the children in verbal tasks. Regarding chronic exposure to aircraft noise, studies consistently found that high exposure is associated with lower reading performance. Even though the reported effects are usually small in magnitude, and confounding variables were not always sufficiently controlled, policy makers responsible for noise abatement should be aware of the potential impact of environmental noise on children's development.

**Keywords:** noise, cognitive performance, cognitive development, children, speech perception, listening comprehension, irrelevant sound effect, classroom acoustics



In everyday life, cognitive tasks are often performed in the presence of task-irrelevant environmental noise. Accordingly, numerous studies on noise effects on performance have been conducted since the middle of the 20th century (for reviews see Hellbrück and Liebl, 2007; Szalma and Hancock, 2011), showing that—depending on characteristics of sounds and tasks—noise of low to moderate intensity may in fact evoke substantial impairments in performance.

Most of these studies were conducted with adults. The present review, however, will focus on studies including children. Children are especially vulnerable to harmful effects of environmental noise, as cognitive functions are less automatized and thus more prone to disruption. We will report findings concerning effects of acute noise on performance in concurrent auditory and non-auditory tasks, as well as effects of chronic noise on children's cognitive development.

### Effects of acute noise on children's performance in auditory tasks

Psychoacoustic studies have consistently shown that children's speech perception is more impaired than adults' by unfavorable listening conditions. The ability to recognize speech under conditions of noise or noise combined with reverberation improves until the teenage years (Johnson, 2000; Wightman and Kistler, 2005; Talarico et al., 2007; Neuman et al., 2010). With stationary noise makers, signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) have to be 5–7 dB higher for young children when compared to adults in order to achieve comparable levels of identification of speech or nonspeech signals, with adult-like performance reached at about 6 years of age (Schneider et al., 1989; Fallon et al., 2000; Werner, 2007). However, with maskers that vary over time, i.e., with trial-by-trial variation of the maskers' spectral composition (Oh et al., 2001; Hall et al., 2005; Leibold and Neff, 2007) or with fluctuating maskers such as single-talker speech (Wightman and Kistler, 2005), adult-like performance is usually not reached before the age of 10 years. Furthermore, children are less able than adults to make use of spectro-temporal and spatial cues for separation of signal and noise (Wightman et al., 2003; Hall et al., 2005). These findings demonstrate that children are especially prone to *informational* masking, i.e., masking that goes beyond energetic masking predicted by filter models of the auditory periphery.

Studies identified a range of linguistic and cognitive factors to be responsible for children's difficulties with speech perception in noise: concerning the former, children are less able than adults to use stored phonological knowledge to reconstruct degraded speech input. This holds for the level of individual phonemes, as children's phoneme categories are less well specified than adults' (Hazan and Barrett, 2000), but also for the lexical level since children's phonological word representations are more holistic and less segmented into phoneme units. Therefore the probability of successfully matching incomplete speech input with stored long-term representations is reduced (Nittrouer, 1996; Metsala, 1997; Mayo et al., 2003). In addition, young children are less able than older children and adults to make use of contextual cues to reconstruct noise-masked words presented in sentential context (Elliott, 1979). Concerning attention, children's immature auditory selective attention skills contribute to their difficulties with speech-in-noise perception. Children's susceptibility to informational masking has been attributed to deficits in focusing attention on auditory channels centered on signal frequencies, while ignoring nonsignal channels (Wightman and Kistler, 2005). Behavioral and ERP measures from dichotic listening paradigms provide evidence that auditory selective attention improves throughout entire childhood (Doyle, 1973; Pearson and Lane, 1991; Coch et al., 2005; Wightman et al., 2010; Gomes et al., 2012).

Owing to the mediating role of linguistic competence and selective attention, children with language or attention disorders are still more impaired than normally developing children by noise in speech perception tasks (Geffner et al., 1996; Ziegler et al., 2005, 2009). A stronger noise effect is also evident for children tested in their second language when compared to native children (Crandell and Smaldino,



# Autism & Anxiety: Parents seek help for extreme reaction to loud noise

September 5, 2018

*Our 12-year-old son has autism, mild intellectual disability and anxiety attacks so severe that we end up in the emergency room. Loud noises are the worst – for example the school fire alarm, thunderstorms, a balloon popping, fireworks. Any help would be greatly appreciated.*



*This week's "Got Questions?" answer is by Judy Reaven, a clinical psychologist and associate professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Children's Hospital Colorado, in Denver. Dr. Reaven's conducted research on the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral therapy for anxiety in adolescents with autism, with the support of an [Autism Speaks research grant](#).*

***Editor's note: The following information is not meant to diagnose or treat and should not take the place of personal consultation, as appropriate, with a qualified healthcare professional and/or behavioral therapist.***

Thanks for the great question. It certainly sounds like your family is experiencing a very difficult situation. Anxiety symptoms and reactions are very common in individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). They can interfere with functioning across home, community and school settings.

Although your son's reaction sounds more severe than most, many people with autism struggle with a range of fears, phobias and worries. These can range from a debilitating fear of, say, spiders or the dark to chronic anxiety about making mistakes or being late.

Fortunately, recent research suggests that anxiety in children and adults who have autism is quite treatable. Often, these individuals are helped by the same or similar strategies that work well in treating anxiety in the general population.

These approaches include cognitive behavior therapy, or CBT. Cognitive-behavioral approaches are well-established, evidenced-based treatments that have become the gold standard of psychosocial treatments for anxiety. [My own research](#) and that of my colleagues has demonstrated the helpfulness of modifying cognitive-behavioral approaches to address the special needs of those who have autism.

Where to begin?

You describe a number of fears that may be related to sensory sensitivities. I recommend that you begin by consulting an occupational therapist who can assess whether your son's extreme sensitivities to noises are part of a broader sensory processing disorder. If this is the case, and if your son's fears are exclusively triggered by sensory stimuli, then his symptoms may be best addressed by a sensory-focused intervention. Many occupational therapists who specialize in autism receive special training in this area.

It's common for children with ASD and anxiety to become extremely frightened in response to sensory stimuli. Perhaps – like many individuals with autism – your son also has difficulty telling you what's scaring him. Instead, he may show his fear with extreme avoidance of a situation.

For example, he might refuse to go to school after a fire drill. He might become fearful of birthday parties after being frightened by a balloon that popped unexpectedly. Other signs of extreme distress can include yelling, crying, clinging and general agitation. Because your son may have difficulty communicating, it's important to observe his behavior for these signs of distress. This can help you determine what's triggering his fears.

#### Avoidance versus learning to cope

Many parents go to great pains to protect their children by avoiding agitating situations. This approach is sometimes appropriate and even necessary. However, it denies individuals the opportunity to learn how to manage anxiety-provoking situations on their own.

By helping your son learn to manage his fear, you can prepare him for an unpredictable world so that he can participate in it to the maximum extent possible.

Given the severity of your son's anxiety symptoms, I suggest that you seek professional support in addition to the strategies offered here. Families whose children have milder symptoms of anxiety can try these strategies on their own – seeking professional help if symptoms worsen.

#### Tackling one fear at a time

I suggest making a list of your child's major fears and worries. Try to rank order them from mild to severe. To encourage success, I'd start with a mild-to-moderate fear before taking on his extreme reaction to loud noises.

Key components of a cognitive behavioral approach include introducing coping strategies such as deep breathing and "helpful thoughts" that can help a person manage fearful reactions.

For example, you can teach your son to take deep slow breaths to help manage his body's physical anxiety reactions.

"Helpful thoughts" are statements that your son can say to himself when faced with a situation that makes him anxious. For example, you can coach to your son to say, "This is a loud noise. I don't like it, but I can handle it."

To help your son to learn these strategies, I suggest you model taking deep breaths while repeating a "helpful thought" out loud.

#### Graded exposure

The most important step is to help your son face his fears a little at a time. We call this "graded exposure." For example, explain to your son that the two of you are going to listen to a recording of thunder. The first time, you might play the recording at a soft volume, then gradually increase the volume over time as he demonstrates increased comfort with the sounds.

Or you might try watching a video of a balloon pop – perhaps with the volume off the first time. Then he can watch a real balloon pop while standing some distance away. Over time, he can move closer and closer to the balloon.

After such exercises, you can present him with small rewards for being brave and "facing fears." Remember that even a small act of bravery – such as listening to a recording of thunder for 10 seconds – represents an important step toward handling fears. It deserves to be acknowledged.

Although graded exposure may seem counterintuitive, research indicates that this strategy is the single most effective strategy for getting over a particular fear.

I wish you and your son the very best. Please let us know how you're doing with an email to [GotQuestions@autismspeaks.org](mailto:GotQuestions@autismspeaks.org).

60  
Shares

## Additional Resources & Tools

#### EXPERT OPINION

[Help for Child with Autism & Recurring Behavioral Crises: Part 2](#)

#### EXPERT OPINION

[Parents Seek Help for Son with Autism and Recurring Behavioral Crises](#)




SCIENCE  
NEWS


#### EXPERT OPINION


[Parents Seek Help: Child with Severe Autism Eats Only Sweets](#)





I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME JUDIE Arritola  
ADDRESS 603 Modelane La Grande OR  
EMAIL pjtolac@charter.net

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME JOHN GARLITZ  
ADDRESS 484 HAWTHORNE DR. LG, OR 97850  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME Andrea Gulzow  
ADDRESS 486 Hawthorne DR, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL foreverfamily33@adl.com

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME FRANCES E Lillard  
ADDRESS 478 Mainline DR. LG  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE   
PRINTED NAME C. Huxoll  
ADDRESS 472 Modelaire DR. La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL CHRISHUXOLL@EMAIL.COM



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Jessie Huxoll

ADDRESS

472 Madeline Dr. La Grande, OR 97050

EMAIL

JESSIEHuxoll@LIVE.COM

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Brent H Smith

ADDRESS

410 Allium St La Grande 97850

EMAIL

smithbrent@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

M. Jeannette Smith

ADDRESS

410 Allium Street

EMAIL

jeannettesmith@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Kimberley Hetstuman

ADDRESS

2409 CENTURY LP, LA GRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL

kimheitstuman@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

Shawn K. Mangum

ADDRESS

2409 E. M. Ave.

EMAIL

Hoya/mw95@me.com

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

*Jonathan D. White*

PRINTED NAME

Jonathan D. White

ADDRESS

485 Madelaine Dr

EMAIL

jondwhite418@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Robin Stedfeld*

PRINTED NAME

Robin Stedfeld

ADDRESS

485 Madelaine Dr. LaGrande

EMAIL

rstedfeld@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE

*Ronnie L. Allen*

PRINTED NAME

Ronnie L. Allen 541-963-7720

ADDRESS

410 Balsa Street LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850

EMAIL

N/A NONE:

SIGNATURE

*Rita Allen*

PRINTED NAME

Rita Allen

ADDRESS

410 Balsa St. LaGrande Or.

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*Linda M. Snyder*

PRINTED NAME

Linda M. Snyder

ADDRESS

491 17704241R

EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Robin J. Ostermann*

PRINTED NAME Robin J. Ostermann

ADDRESS 495 Modelaire Dr La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE *Robert J. Ostermann*  
Robert J. Ostermann

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS 495 Modelaire Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE *John Yeates*

PRINTED NAME JOHN YEATES

ADDRESS 408 SUNSET DRIVE LA GRANDE, OR 97850

EMAIL jyeates52@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Ruth Schumacher Yeates*

PRINTED NAME Ruth Schumacher Yeates

ADDRESS 408 Sunset Dr, La Grande

EMAIL ruthschumacheryeates@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *D. Dale Mammen*

PRINTED NAME D. Dale Mammen

ADDRESS 405 Balsa. La Grande, Or

EMAIL dmammen@comi.com



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Damon Sexton*  
PRINTED NAME *Damon Sexton*  
ADDRESS *401 Balsa St La Grande, OR 97850*  
EMAIL *sexton.damon@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE *Coy Sexton*  
PRINTED NAME *Coy Sexton*  
ADDRESS *401 Balsa Street, La Grande, OR 97850*  
EMAIL *Coytris@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE *Melinda McGowan*  
PRINTED NAME *Melinda McGowan*  
ADDRESS *602 Sunset Dr.*  
EMAIL *melindamegowan@gmail.com*

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

SIGNATURE  
PRINTED NAME  
ADDRESS  
EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Lois Barry*  
PRINTED NAME LOIS BARRY  
ADDRESS P.O. BOX 566, LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL loisbarry31@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Cathy Webb*  
PRINTED NAME CATHY WEBB  
ADDRESS 1700 Cedar St. LA GRANDE, OR 97850  
EMAIL thinkski@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *JoAnn Marlette*  
PRINTED NAME JOANN MARLETTE  
ADDRESS 2031 Court St. #8, Baker City, OR 97814  
EMAIL joannmarlette@yahoo.com

SIGNATURE *Keith D. Hudson*  
PRINTED NAME Keith D. Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL Keithdhudson@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Laura Elly Hudson*  
PRINTED NAME Laura Elly Hudson  
ADDRESS 605 F Ave, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL ellyhudson@gmail.com



I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Lynn Wheeler Duncan*  
PRINTED NAME LYNN WHEELER DUNCAN  
ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, LaGrande OR 97850  
EMAIL rlwd1910@gmail.com

SIGNATURE *Gary D. Pierson*  
PRINTED NAME Gary D. Pierson  
ADDRESS 489 Modelaire Drive, La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL -

SIGNATURE *Anna G. Carinato*  
PRINTED NAME Anna G. Carinato  
ADDRESS 86 Hawthorne Dr. La Grande OR 97850  
EMAIL acavinat@ecu.edu

SIGNATURE *Joe Horst*  
PRINTED NAME JOE HORST  
ADDRESS 86 HAWTHORNE DR. LA GRANDE OR. 97850  
EMAIL joehorst@con.com

SIGNATURE *Angela Sherer*  
PRINTED NAME Angela Sherer  
ADDRESS 91 W. Hawthorne Dr La Grande, OR 97850  
EMAIL asherer@frontier.com

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE

*Merle E Comfort*

PRINTED NAME

MERLE E COMFORT

ADDRESS

209 SWAPLO LA GRANDE OR 97850

EMAIL

merlecomfort@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Robin L. Maille*

PRINTED NAME

Robin Maille

ADDRESS

401 Cedar St., La Grande

EMAIL

rmaille@icloud.com

SIGNATURE

*Carol S. Summers*

PRINTED NAME

CAROL S. SUMMERS

ADDRESS

2811 Bekelen Lane La Grande, OR.

EMAIL

carolsummers1938@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

*Caroline Kaye Juniper*

PRINTED NAME

Caroline Kaye Juniper

ADDRESS

406 4th Street - LaGrande - OR 97850

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

*Gerald D. Juniper*

PRINTED NAME

Gerald Darwin Juniper

ADDRESS

406 4th St. LaGrande, OR. 97850

EMAIL

I have read the attached letter regarding noise and it expresses my concerns and my request to abandon the use of the proposed route for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project and that it be rerouted to an area that is much less impactful to the residents of La Grande and to the surrounding area.

SIGNATURE *Robert J. Sherer*

PRINTED NAME Robert J. Sherer

ADDRESS 970 Hawthorne Dr, La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL asherer@frontier.com.

SIGNATURE *Heather M. Null*

PRINTED NAME Heather M. Null

ADDRESS 492 Madeline Dr. La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL hnull@conl.com

SIGNATURE *Bert R. Freewing*

PRINTED NAME Bert R. Freewing

ADDRESS 709 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street La Grande, OR 97850

EMAIL jeantfreewing@gmail.com

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL



August 15, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Via E-MAIL: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project  
9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019

To: Chairmen Beyeler and Members of the Council

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Project Order for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project. I support the Oregon California Trails Association (OCTA) and the work that they have done to protect the Oregon Trail, especially here in Oregon. OCTA is mentioned numerous times in **Exhibit S** and the **Historic Properties Management Plan and Programmatic Agreement**. OCTA does NOT believe that Exhibit S Historic Properties Management Plan is complete in 7.2.3 Field Crew, and offers this additional condition.

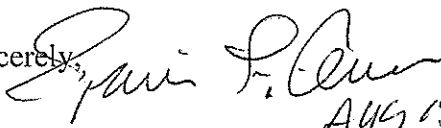
**ADDITIONAL CONDITION #1** OCTA recommends that the Council add an Oregon Trail expert to the Cultural Resource Team. This Oregon Trail individual will have qualifications similar to Field crew members. For example, they will have an undergraduate degree in anthropology, archaeology, or in a field such as geology, engineering or history. It will not be necessary to have attended a field school. This individual will be recommended by the National OCTA President and agreed to by the Field Director.

The field surveys, even with SHPO and NPS data, have missed and/or mislabeled some sections of the emigrant trail. OCTA wants the public to know where the Trails are, and I do too! OCTA over the years has marked the trail location with wooden signs, small triangles attached to trees, and more recently, carbonite posts and steel rails. Most private property owners are proud of the trail on their property, and after obtaining permission allow the public to walk and hike on the trail.

Idaho Power and their consultants have not acknowledged trail crossings shown on submitted Maps and do not acknowledge visual intrusion of the line for 10 miles per standards, and only upon ODOE's RAI's, put into documents some trail protections. This has been consistent from the BLM process to current day.

Considering the points above, Idaho Power does not comply with the state standards for cultural resources OAR 354-022-0090, or 345-022-0080, Scenic resources. **EFSC Must Deny the Site Certificate!**

Sincerely,

  
AUG 15, 2019  
11:30 A.M.

Ronnie Allen  
410 Balsa St  
La Grande, OR 97850

Allen

445 N. Benson

Union, OR, 97883

PORTLAND OR 972

17 AUG 2019 PM 6 L



RECEIVED

AUG 19 2019

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Kellen Tardawether

EFSC / ODOE

550 Capitol St. NE 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR. 97301

97301-253099



Kellen Tardaewether  
Senior Siting Analyst  
Energy Facility Siting Council  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. NE 1st Floor  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Ms. Tardaewether:

#### NOXIOUS WEED COMMENTS

The draft Noxious Weed Management Plan Section B2 of Application does not meet the requirements of the following Administrative Rules which must be addressed prior to the issuance of a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission line. The plan must comply with OAR 345-022-0060, Habitat Standard, requiring that the plan not result in infestations of noxious weeds and resulting damage to wildlife habitat; OAR 345-22-0070, Threatened and Endangered Species, requiring the protection of Threatened and Endangered species including the potential for habitat degradation resulting in species reduction, OAR 345-22-0110, Public Services due to the impact of local weed control services being required to address unmanaged infestations of noxious weeds, OAR 345-22-0030, Land Use due to impacts of invasive weeds on all private lands including those designated as farm and/or forest use which would significantly impact farm income and adjacent farm and forest property.

Union County submitted 31 notes and changes required of the Noxious Weed Plan on August 22, 2017. It was as a result of a meeting between the Morrow, Umatilla and Union County weed supervisors and incorporated previous concern of Malheur and Baker county weed supervisors. These comments are submitted due to the need to address each of the changes required to the Noxious Weed Plan.

Following are issues taken from the draft Weed Management Plan which need to be corrected to comply with Oregon state law and/or EFSC rules:

#### Page B2-2

Idaho Power claims to be only responsible for weeds within Right of Way and up to 50 feet from right of way in Malheur County. IPC claims no responsibility for weeds outside the ROW or those present before the project. Absent 100% assurance that no noxious weeds at the site of the development will be allowed to go to seed, the weeds at the site will disperse to areas outside the ROW.

Idaho Power Management Plan: (B2-13) Problematic statements which are not consistent with the statutes and rules requiring control of noxious weeds.



- Pre construction weed surveys only planned for areas to be disturbed during construction. (Weed surveys also need to occur for areas adjacent to the development as well as control sites to determine if more weed infestations are occurring at locations impacted by the development.)
- Surveys will be completed by the Construction Contractors. (Surveys need to be completed by a third party not impacted by the results.)
- Will document existing infestation of noxious weeds adjacent to the project and adjacent uses that could contribute to proliferation of noxious weeds. (B2-14). (Plan to use this information to avoid responsibility for addressing infestations of these noxious weeds within the ROW in spite of the fact that disrupting habitat will increase the likelihood of infestations which may otherwise not occur. The information needs to be used to determine current conditions and establish whether or not the development has resulted in increased numbers or types of noxious weeds present.)
- IPC claims they are only responsible for controlling new noxious weed populations that are demonstrated to be the result of project construction, operation or maintenance. (i.e. new infestation in an area disturbed by project activities that cannot be attributed to adjacent existing infestations or introduction by a source outside the control of IPC) (Ignores the fact that disruption of the habitat is a major factor in new infestations).
- IPC will not be responsible for control of pre-existing noxious weed populations outside the Project ROW. IPC will not be responsible for noxious weeds introduced by activities other than Project Construction and O&M (eg. Recreational use, grazing, other construction projects, etc) or natural occurrences (eg. Fire, or noxious weeds outside the ROW or any existing access roads not improved by the Project.  
(Development, improvement of, and use of roads for access to the area will promote the introduction of and increased occurrence of noxious weed infestations. The development will damage native habitat and will result in ongoing equipment use of the area in the ROW will result in increased weed infestations and the transport of weed varieties from other areas. Habitat impacts for the life of the project will result in opportunities for invasive weed infestations. The developer is responsible for these impacts unless they can document that the impacts of the development were not the cause or a contributing cause of the infestation.
- (B2-15) The developer plans to have vehicle movement outside the right-of-way in predesignated access, contractor-acquired access, public roads, overland travel routes, or crossings to streams approved by applicable land-management agency or landowner. (The developer is responsible for noxious weed control in any areas where new roads are developed, existing roads are modified by the developer, overland travel routes, including streams crossed. There appears to be a presumption that overland travel outside designated corridors does not

contribute to noxious weed spread. This is categorically incorrect.)

\* (B2-20) Noxious weed control efforts will be conducted for 3 to 5 years following construction. Would extend beyond 3-5 years if: disturbed areas are not meeting preconstruction conditions and adjacent land uses are not deemed to be the primary cause of the introduction and/or persistence of noxious weed species within areas disturbed by the Project and/or maintenance activities have caused or contributed to the spread or establishment of noxious weeds.

(Disturbed habitat is a primary causal factor of invasive weed infestations.

Adjacent land uses will not be a primary causal factor. No matter what the results of the initial years of noxious weed control efforts, the control efforts need to continue for the life of the project. Ongoing maintenance of the transmission line, the use of vehicles in the ROW, access to the area provided by the ROW, etc. will mean that the development will increase the likelihood of invasive weed infestations for the life of the project.)

- (B2-21) IPC will conduct ongoing monitoring and focused control of noxious weed infestations inside of the ROW, as needed, for the life of the BLM ROW and the USFS special-use authorization. (Planning to do this monitoring and control for the life of the project only for areas on BLM or USFS lands)

#### SOME OF THE PROBLEMS

1. Ongoing monitoring for the life of the project only is done on BLM and USFS land, not private land or state land.

B2-21

2. The construction contractor will develop the final weed management plan and do the surveys. The draft plan included in the application documents that the developer does not intend to comply with state law or administrative rules as noted in the detailed comments received from me and others concerned with this issue. The plan should be developed by a third party contractor not directly impacted by it's requirements.

3. Monitoring of private property does not continue for the life of the project.

4. IPC not taking responsibility for infestations occurring from adjacent lands even though they have disturbed the habitat increasing the opportunities for infestations.

5. IPC not taking responsibility for any infestations which result from increased access to area due to ROW allowing recreational vehicles to access area.

6. IPC not planning monitoring and treatment timeframes that will preclude the dispersal of seeds from the area.

7. IPC is not taking responsibility for weeds dispersed from the transmission line to the adjoining property.

8. IPC providing no control plots to determine if the existence of the transmission line ROW results in more noxious weeds in adjacent private property.

**State Statutes and rules:**

ORS 569.390 requires the owner or occupant of land containing noxious weeds is responsible for assuring that no noxious weed are permitted to produce seed. ORS 569.390 states that no machinery shall be moved over any public road without first thoroughly cleaning it.

OAR 345-025-0016 states "In the site certificate, the Council shall include conditions that address monitoring and mitigation to assure compliance with the standards contained in OAR Chapter 35, Division 22 and Division 24.

EFSC does not have the authority to overrule state statutes relating to noxious weed management.

**Federal Issues:**

Executive Order 13112 (1999) requires Prevent introduction of such species, detect and control such species, monitor population of such species, not authorize, fund, or carry out actions likely to cause the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States or elsewhere unless the benefits of the action clearly outweigh the harm and the agencies take steps to minimize the harm.

**US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service**

Invasive species management activities on National Forest System lands shall be conducted according to the following objectives: prevention, early detection and rapid response, control and management, restoration.

BLM Manual 9015 (BLM 1992) BLM must manage noxious weeds and undesirable plants on BLM lands by preventing establishment and spread of new infestations, reducing existing population levels and managing and controlling existing stands.

The above information provides adequate documentation of the problems with increased noxious weed impacts to wildlife habitat, adjacent farm and forest lands, etc. The applicant has not provided a management plan that provides adequate monitoring, management and treatment of the area of impacts of noxious weeds due to the development.

The attached article from the Iowa City Noxious Weed Commissioner provides the cost of failure to address this issue in dollars, loss of biological diversity and land lost to weeds.

Please require the developer to correct the Weed Management Plan to incorporate my concerns as well as those identified by the Counties. These changes are necessary to



comply with requirements of Oregon Statutes as well as the Administrative Rules of EFSC and other state agencies who are charged with addressing Noxious Weeds.

Sincerely,

Ruby P. Allen  
445 N. Benson  
Union Or 97883

541-562-5659

August 14, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol Street N.E.  
Salem, OR. 97301

Via E-MAIL: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project  
9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019

To: Chairmen Beyeler and Members of the Council

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the B2H Draft Proposed Order. The Oregon National Historic Trail will be significantly affected by the B2H Transmission Line.

The Draft Proposed Order identifies significant impacts to the Oregon Trail in several Exhibits, including Exhibit C: Property Location and Maps; Exhibit L: Protected Areas; Exhibit R: Scenic Aesthetic Values; Exhibit S: Cultural Resources; Exhibit T: Recreational Facilities; and Exhibit X: Noise.

B2H crosses the Oregon Trail at least 8 times. EFSC has done a reasonable job of protecting the Trail during construction and operation, if the proposed requirements are followed, **except at the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center at Flagstaff Hill.**

The B2H Transmission Line should be buried for approximately 2 to 2 ½ miles to comply with the exhibits indicated above. Idaho Power has from the early years refused to do any significant analysis for this option. IPC uses cost as the reason for stating that undergrounding is not feasible. Cost is not a specific standard, and costs are the responsibility of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission during rate considerations. EFSC has determined that IPC has the Financial ability even if some partners choose to not participate, so reasonable cost should not be a determining factor for EFSC.

**EFSC should refuse to approve the Draft Project Order for the following reasons:**

1. Does not comply with Noise Standards as no measurements were done at the Oregon Trail viewpoint or walking trails endpoint near milepost 146. Perhaps not a "Noise Sensitive Property," in the context of residential sleeping areas; however, certainly for tourists and visitors to the Interpretive Center and hiking trails noise will be disturbing. Map 23 in Attachment X-1 does not even show the Oregon Trail.
2. Within OAR 345-022-0040 Protected Areas and ODEQ standards 340-035-0000-0100, this area should have been monitored and modeled as a Noise Sensitive Property and was not.
3. Does not comply with Scenic Values from the Blue Mountains Parkway and Oregon Trail Interpretive Center. The OR 86 encourages drivers to STOP and read interpretive signs, so viewer perception and resource change cause significant decrease of scenic vales. IPC says no significant impact.
4. The DPO does not comply with Exhibit L Protected Areas. The BLM ACEC at Flagstaff Hill has not considered undergrounding for the protection of the Oregon Trail. No analysis found the pristine, Class 1 swales of the Oregon Trail within the ACEC located at: Lat 44.813762 Long -117.750194 or 44° 48' 48.26"N 117° 75' 57.97"W. IPC proposes to build a new constructed road over the Oregon Trail in the area identified in the location above.
5. The DPO does not meet the standards required for Exhibit T Recreational Facilities, OAR 345-022-0100, especially at the Flagstaff Hill interpretive center, because of:
  - a. It is a BLM ACEC area managed for public tourism

- b. It is the single most visited tourist facility in Baker County
  - c. The quality of the facility is outstanding
  - d. There is no other place where the Oregon Trail can be seen and interpreted.
6. The cost estimates of IPC do not compare with those of the *Edison Electric Institute*, January 2013 publication "Out of Sight, Out of Mind, An Updated Study of the Undergrounding of Power Lines." This article suggests that for 2.5 miles of rural undergrounding, the cost will be \$67,500,000. This is almost half the IPC estimate.

The Oregon Trail along the route of the B2H has the most damaging affects to its critical historic elements. Once the Trail is gone it cannot be reconstructed or mitigated back to life. Once gone, always gone. The only easily accessible public facility in Oregon is the Flagstaff Hill Interpretive Center near Baker City. The B2H must be buried to preserve this important site.

Considering the reasons above and the unconscionable desecration of our national treasure, the Council Must Deny the site certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission project.

Thank you,

  
Signature

Printed Name:

Content Anderson

Mailing Address:

409 Sunset  
LaGrande OR 97850

Email:

betsyanderson1000@gmail.com

Flagstaff is not the only  
area I object to. There  
multiple other crossings will  
affect tourism in our counties  
which will receive no benefit  
from B2H, just harm





<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 primitive campsites and a fishing dock. Morgan Lake 2 Park actually contains two lakes. Morgan Lake covers 3 70 acres. 4 The other, Twin Lake, is in plain site within 5 300 feet of Morgan Lake, it covers 27 acres. Twin Lake 6 is undeveloped, a wildlife and bird sanctuary, home to 7 nesting bald eagles. It is designated as protected 8 wetlands. In their application Idaho Power conveniently 9 omits any references to Twin Lake. 10 Page 156 purports to be a map of Morgan Lake 11 Park. According to the map legend the purple crosshatch 12 amoeba-shaped area is Morgan Lake Park. That is wrong. 13 The purple crosshatch is Morgan Lake. The actual 14 boundaries of the 204-acre park are not indicated. And 15 obviously it's difficult to believe "extensive work on 16 this siting study" ever occurred. 17 A specific example of unsupported conclusions: 18 Page 145, Baseline condition, quote: "A goal of minimal 19 development of Morgan Lake Park should be maintained to 20 preserve the maximum natural setting and to encourage 21 solitude, isolation, and limited visibility of users..." 22 Page 146, quote: "The landscape character is 23 natural appearing. Scenic integrity is high as the 24 human developments are harmonious with the landscape." 25 Page 149: "Vegetation will block views of the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 significant impact." 2 Thank you. 3 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Following 4 Mr. Anderson, we will hear from Jonathan White. 5 MR. JOHN ANDERSON: Thank you. Many of the 6 things I have to say have already been covered. 7 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: If you could give 8 your name and your address. 9 MR. JOHN ANDERSON: I'm sorry. John C. 10 Anderson, 409 Sunset Drive, La Grande. 11 Many of the things that I have to say have 12 already been covered quite eloquently, but being short, 13 I will say them anyway. 14 There are many good reasons to abandon Idaho 15 Power's planned B2H power line. Today you may hear 16 testimony regarding economics, geology, eminent domain, 17 view scapes, and many others. 18 I would like to talk about the danger of fire. 19 We know about the Camp Fire and the tragic consequences 20 for Paradise, California. This and other major fires 21 were caused by power lines owned by PG&amp;E. 22 B2H will cross the Blue Mountains west of 23 La Grande through areas of extreme risk of wildfire. 24 This is reckless behavior. 25 In 1973, the Rooster Peak Fire started 6 miles</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 towers from most locations in the park," unquote. 2 In reality, one tower would dominate the 3 entrance to the park, all 130 feet of it in plain view. 4 Within the park, trees bordering the lake are no more 5 than 80 feet high. 130-foot transmission towers will 6 rise more than 50 feet above those trees, dominating the 7 current landscape. 8 Idaho Power simply concludes that the 9 inescapable sight of 500-kV transmission lines and 10 towers around a natural lake setting will have, quote, 11 "no significant impact," on Morgan Lake Park. In 12 research writing this qualifies as wishful thinking. 13 This is the park whose baseline, quote, 14 "should be maintained to preserve the maximum natural 15 setting and to encourage solitude, isolation, and 16 limited visibility of users," unquote, because 50 years 17 ago, no one ever imagined anything larger than a human 18 being might ever intrude. 19 If this application were an airplane, it would 20 have crashed long ago. I urge the Commission to deny 21 this application for a site certificate until each 22 comment submitted at these public meetings and sent to 23 the Commission by July 23rd has been thoroughly analyzed 24 and Idaho Power has provided credible evidence to 25 support each of its conclusions of, quote, "no</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 west of La Grande. When it was discovered it was 2 limited to 1 acre. Days later it had consumed 6,000 3 acres and had burned right up to the hospital's grounds. 4 It could happen again. 5 PG&amp;E and other utilities are shutting down 6 some of their lines during times of high risk. If Idaho 7 Power wisely followed their lead, they would lose the 8 power they say they need during a time of peak demand. 9 Siting a high-voltage line through fire-prone 10 areas is an unacceptable risk to take when this line is 11 not needed. I don't think that Idaho Power has 12 presented plans to mitigate this dangerous situation nor 13 the unforeseen consequences of construction during peak 14 fire season. 15 Please consider the safety of La Grande and 16 its surroundings before you make any decisions. 17 Thank you. My written remarks will follow at 18 a later time. 19 HEARING OFFICER WEBSTER: Thank you. 20 Following Mr. White, we will hear from Susan 21 Badger. 22 MR. JONATHAN WHITE: Jon White, 485 Modelaire 23 Drive, La Grande. 24 My comment is about the blasting that would 25 likely be required during the construction phase of the</p>

~~300~~

John Anderson

There are many good reasons to abandon Idaho Power's planned B2H powerline. Today you ~~may~~ <sup>will</sup> hear testimony regarding economics, geology, eminent domain, viewscapes and many others.

I would like to talk to about the dangers of fire. We know about ~~the tragedy of~~ the Camp Fire and the tragic consequences for Paradise, CA. This and other major fires were caused by powerlines owned by PGE.

B2H will cross the Blue Mts west of LG through areas of extreme risk of wild fire. This is ~~unacceptable~~ <sup>reckless behavior</sup>.

In 1973 the Rooster Peak fire started ~~5~~ 6 miles west of LG. When it was discovered it was limited to 1 acre. Days later it had consumed 6,000 acres and had burned right up to the hospital grounds. It could happen again -

PGE and other utilities are shutting down some of their lines during times of high risk. If Idaho Power wisely followed their lead they would lose the power they say they need during a time of peak demand.

Siting a high voltage line through fire prone areas  
~~It~~ is an unacceptable risk to take when  
this line is not needed. Please consider the safety  
of LG and its surroundings before you make any  
decisions. Thank you. My written remarks will  
follow at a later time.

<sup>adequate</sup> I don't think <sup>that</sup> Idaho Power has presented  
plans to mitigate this dangerous situation nor the  
unforeseen consequences of construction during peak fire  
danger - season



August 2, 2019

Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

THE APPLICANT SIGNIFICANTLY UNDERSTATES THE IMPACTS TO EMPLOYMENT AND FOREST LANDS AS A RESULT OF THE PROPOSED B2H TRANSMISSION LINE

Exhibit K, Attachment K-2, Pages 19 and 20, Section 7.0

The applicant claims that removal of forestland by clearing of trees for a period of over 50 years will have little economic impact to forest sector jobs in Umatilla and Union County. They value the loss of 245.6 acres of forestland in Umatilla County at \$488.60 per acre. However, they value the removal of 530.1 acres lost to the transmission line in Union County at \$182.98 per acre. The applicant provides no justification or documentation to support the difference in value per acre between Umatilla and Union Counties.

Some forest facts related to this section:

According to US Forest Service Tech. Rept. PNW-GTR-578 Rev. 2004 entitled "Forests of Eastern Oregon: an Overview", Eastern Oregon Forests produce an average of 20 cubic feet per acre of timber each year. That would mean that an acre of land would produce approximately 240 board feet of lumber per year per acre during the life of the transmission line. According to Scott Hartell, Planning Director, Union County, forest land in Union County is classified as either 20 cubic feet per acre per year, or 50 cubic feet per acre per year, so the value amounts could be significantly higher. The "Forest Facts Oregon's Forests: Some Facts and Figures" published in 2009 by the Oregon Department of Forestry states that economists estimate that for every billion board feet that is harvested in Oregon 11 forest sector jobs are created or retained.

Idaho Power's stated timber values are unrealistically low according to individuals owning forest land in both counties. No one would be using land for trees which precludes other uses if the economic benefits were as the developer is stating.

The applicant's identification of the acres of forest land impacted is incorrect due not only to the failure to use soil types to identify forest lands, but also, the fact that they are requesting a 300 foot right of way and they need to include the value of any additional trees they will be removing in the 100 foot area on each side of the right of way.

The applicant claims that the value of the land in the right of way will not be significantly reduced due to the owner's opportunity to use the land for agricultural or range land after the transmission line is constructed. This is completely unfounded. The lineal nature of a transmission line precludes any productive use of land taken for the transmission line. The right of way is too narrow to make it available for production of crops, and the costs associated with purchasing equipment for agricultural operations would be prohibitive.

It would be unusual for a forest operator to already own equipment for a crop operation. In order to use the right of way as grazing land, it would have to be fenced. According to "Estimated Livestock Fencing Costs for the Small-Farm Owner" by Derek L. Barber, the average cost of materials for ¼ mile (1,320 ft.)

of field fence is \$1,108.53 plus the cost of building it. The Iowa State University Extension identified 2011 costs for constructing ¼ mile of fencing to be \$1,947.75 installed. Enclosing a square acre requires 820 feet of fence. In other words, the cost of fencing an acre of lost forest land would exceed the value the applicant claims the land would add to the local economy per acre for the 50 years the transmission line is predicted to be in place.

The applicant also claims that the transmission line right of way through forest lands will not cause a substantial change in accepted forest practices or cause a significant increase in the cost of accepted forest practices on lands to be directly impacted by the Project or on surrounding lands. Removing trees from land currently being used to grow them certainly will create a substantial change in accepted forest practices. It also will substantially increase the costs of growing and harvesting trees on the surrounding lands. Soil compacted by heavy equipment used to access the line will discourage regrowth.

The transmission line will make it impossible to use aerial equipment to harvest trees on steep hillsides adjacent to the line; it will increase costs of harvest due to the need to avoid equipment contact with the transmission lines, avoid trees falling on the transmission lines, require new access and egress from the forested lands that avoid having log trucks and equipment moving below the transmission line, It will decrease the harvest along the transmission line due to tree loss along the corridor from wind and weather conditions impacting weakened root infrastructure once the transmission corridor is cleared.

Removing forested land along the transmission line will result in nearly a total loss of the economic value of the land removed from production of trees, and will impact the landowners and county economy not only by the loss of the production of trees and taxes, fees, employment and other benefits coming from that activity, but there will be related losses to the productivity of adjacent land, increased costs of harvesting along the transmission line, introduction of noxious weeds, increased risk of wildfire, potential increase in the number of trespassers, interference with wildlife activities including displacement of wildlife to what may be less desirable habitat, opening the area up to increased predation on the multiple non-raptor species utilizing the forested areas, decreased value of land if it is sold, long-term reduction in assessed value of the land, etc. The conclusions stated by the applicant in section 8.0 are false, absolutely without merit.

In addition, the applicant has failed to provide documentation to support their conclusions. The only reference the applicant cites that relates at all to this issue is the publication from the Oregon Forest Resources Institute.

In summary:

The applicant has failed to document that they will comply with Land Use Goal 4 OAR 660-006-000 through OAR 660-006-0010; There is no documentation provided that would indicate they are in compliance with OAR 345-022-0030 and they have not documented, nor are they able to meet the requirement contained in OAR 345-022-0030(4) to allow an exception.

Therefore, the Council should DENY the application for site certificate.

John C Anderson  
Signature

JOHN C ANDERSON  
Printed Name

Mailing Address:

409 Sunset Dr  
La Grande OR 97950

Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E  
Salem, OR 97301

Email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project (B2H) 9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/23/2019.

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

This letter is a public comment for the above referenced project. Specifically, this letter will discuss Idaho Power's compliance with Standard 345-022-0110 - Public Services, in Exhibit U (3.5.6.2 and 3.5.6.5) of the EFSC application for B2H to ODOE. The letter will discuss the impact potential wildfires caused by the B2H transmission line will have on the ability of public and private providers within the analysis area to provide fire protection.

The effect of transmission lines on wildfire impact in western states has been well documented. In California, PG&E lines have caused 5 of the 10 most destructive fires since 2015, producing a liability of over 30 billion for PG&E. When considering the impact of B2H's operation, residents of Union County find the similarities between La Grande and Paradise California, where the infamous Camp Fire struck in 2018, deeply concerning. La Grande and Paradise share similar elevations and populations, however, La Grande has several characteristics that make it significantly more vulnerable to the ravages of wildfire than Paradise. For instance, La Grande averages 18 inches of rain yearly while Paradise enjoys 55 inches. Additionally, the proposed line runs adjacent to La Grande, while the line causing the Camp Fire was 7 miles from Paradise. *Oregon's 2006 Communities at Risk Assessment* by the Oregon Department of Forestry cites a startling fact: **The fire risk of the wildland urban interface (WUI) in La Grande has been rated the #1 WUI fire risk in Oregon!**

There is no doubt that construction of the proposed B2H transmission line would significantly increase the risk of wildfire in our area. From Idaho Power's own Draft Protection Order (Exhibit U-3.5.6.2, p. U-24): "Most activities will occur during summer when the weather is hot and dry. Much of the proposed construction will occur in grassland and shrub-dominated landscapes where the potential for naturally occurring fire is high. Project construction-related activities, including the use of vehicles, chainsaws, and other motorized equipment, will likely increase this potential risk in some areas within the Site Boundary. Fire hazards can also be related to workers smoking, refueling, and operating vehicles and other equipment off roadways. Welding on broken construction equipment could also potentially result in the combustion of native materials near the welding site." Idaho Power recognizes this hazard but makes no consideration of it in its application.

There are several specifics to examine in an analysis of the proposed B2H line's effects on Union County's ability to provide fire protection services. Firstly, firefighting crews in our region are



limited and volunteer. In their application, Idaho Power avers, "Most of the fire districts within the analysis area comprise volunteers, and in some cases, it takes considerable time to collect and mobilize an entire fire crew." As well, JB Brock, Union County emergency Manager states in Idaho Power's application "volunteer fire departments (rural fire protection districts) have a hard time finding volunteers due to budget constraints, similarly to budget constraints at the state and federal level. The wildland fires are getting bigger and cost more to fight" (U-1C-6). Fire crews in Union County are not equipped to handle potential wildfires generated by the proposed B2H transmission line.

The fact that fire crews are unstable, small and volunteer affects many aspects of their ability to respond to wildfires. Delayed response times, as noted in the quote from the previous paragraph, is one effect. Estimates of response time in the EFSC application are best-case scenarios. The estimate of 4 to 8 minutes as the response time in Union County (Table U-10) is far from even a best-case scenario (p. U-17). Residents that live on Morgan Lake Road concur that driving time is at least 10-15 minutes to the most accessible areas of the line from the base of Morgan Lake Road. Add to this estimate travel time from the La Grande Fire Station (approximately 7 minutes) and the time needed for individual fire fighters to travel to the Fire Station for a more realistic best-case scenario response time. The Paradise Camp Fire burned at a rate of over 1 acre per second!

Another factor in transmission line fires particularly impactful for small volunteer fire departments is the complications to firefighting introduced by the transmission lines themselves. According to Marvin Vetter, ODOF's Rangeland Coordinator, "local crews have no training in this scenario and will wait for the lines to be de-energized." JB Brock, Union County Emergency Manager, states, "The project (transmission line) could limit the ability on initial attack if fire fighters have to wait for power lines to be de-energized." (U-1C-6) These delays allow fires to grow even more.

How can communities struggling to maintain volunteer fire crews hope to address the overwhelming additional challenges and risks imposed by a project such as the B2H transmission line? Where is this addressed in Idaho Power's application and how can Idaho Power conclude that the proposed B2H transmission line is "not expected to have significant adverse impacts on fire protections services" (Exhibit U 3.5.6.2)? Considering the current capacities of fire protection services in Union County and the additional risks of wildfire imposed by the B2H transmission line, I urge you to act in accordance with state statute OAR 345-022-0110 and reject Idaho Power's application to construct the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line.

Sincerely,

John C Anderson

Name JOHN C Anderson  
Address

409 Sunset Dr  
La Grande OR  
97850

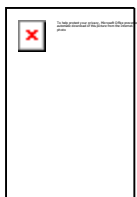
The fact that our hospital  
was almost destroyed by a  
wildfire in 1974 should be  
very concerning.

## ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE

---

**From:** Lana Anderson <lanajcoke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 2:23 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** B2H letter  
**Attachments:** doc00963920190822142232.pdf

--



**Lana Anderson**  
Broker, Blue Summit Realty Group  
541-962-5413 | lanajcoke@gmail.com  
102 Greenwood La Grande, OR 97850

---

Create your own [email signature](#)

August 5, 2019

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov

Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project 9/28/2018; Draft Proposal Order May 23, 2019.

Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

I am very concerned about the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project as it is proposed. My concerns are for the safety of myself and all of the citizens of La Grande if this line is permitted. My primary concerns are slope instability and wildfire hazard.

The proposed route sited to the west of La Grande is placed on a ridge noted to have instability and high risk for slides. The geologic study provided by Idaho Power references several studies (below).

Table H-2. USGS Quaternary Faults within 5 Miles of Project by County on page H-12 clearly shows that the project is placed right on an active fault in the West Grande Ronde Valley Fault Zone. In addition, in exhibit H, Geological Hazards and Soil Stability, Table B3: Soils Descriptions, Union County, much of the erosion hazard is rated "severe." Below is part of the report:

## **5.2 La Grande Area Slope Instability**

*As part of our study, we reviewed DOGAMI's open file report: Engineering Geology of the La Grande Area, Union County, Oregon, by Schlicker and Deacon (1971). The study identified several landslides in the areas west and south of La Grande. The majority of the landslide features mapped by Schlicker and Deacon (1971) were similarly mapped as landslides or alluvial fans in Ferns and others (2010). The current SLIDO database uses the feature locations mapped in Ferns and others (2010). While the two map sets generally agree, there are differences in the mapped limits of some landslide and alluvial fan areas, and there is one landslide area in Schlicker and Deacon (1971), near towers 106/3 and 106/4, which is not included in SLIDO or Ferns and others (2010). The Landslide Inventory in Appendix E includes mapped landslide and alluvial fan limits from both SLIDO and Schlicker and Deacon (1971).*

This slope instability is not inconsequential to a project like this. Recall in 2014, Oso, Washington, was the site of a catastrophic mudslide as the result of logging disturbance of the soil upslope from the town combined with significant rainfall. This resulted in 43 fatalities. We must learn from previous mistakes in not heeding the geologists' warnings. The area down slope from the proposed B2H line lies the Grande Ronde Hospital and Clinics, which employs hundreds of people and is the critical access hospital for this region. La Grande High School and Central Elementary School are also positioned down slope from the proposed towers. At least 100 homes are positioned down slope of the proposed towers. According to "Engineering Geology of the La Grande Area, Union County, Oregon" maps published by Schlicker, and Deacon (1971), the ENTIRE area of the hillside is deemed a "landslide area" in the La Grande SE quadrangle. This is not a safe place for a transmission line.

The next significant hazard to our community is wildfire. Oregon is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> Most Wildfire Prone state in the United States according to Verisk Wildfire Risk analysis. La Grande is ranked in the top 50 communities in Oregon with the greatest cumulative housing-unit exposure to wildfire as referenced in "Exposure of human communities to wildfire in the Pacific Northwest," by Joe H. Scott, Julie Gilbertson-Day and Richard D. Stratton (available at [http://pyrologix.com/ftp/Public/Reports/RiskToCommunities\\_OR-WA\\_BriefingPaper.pdf](http://pyrologix.com/ftp/Public/Reports/RiskToCommunities_OR-WA_BriefingPaper.pdf)). Finally the proposed route is in the vicinity of Morgan lake, the highest risk area (#1) in Union County in terms of wildland-urban interface, according to the County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan, August 10, 2005.

Cal Fire cites Pacific Gas and Electric equipment and power lines as the cause of numerous wildfires in the state in the last 2 years. This includes the Camp Fire in Butte County (2018), Tubbs Fire in Napa/Sonoma Counties (2017), Witch Fire in San Diego (2007), Valley Fire in Lake/Napa/Sonoma Counties (2015), Nuns Fire in Sonoma County (2017), which were all attributed to transmission.

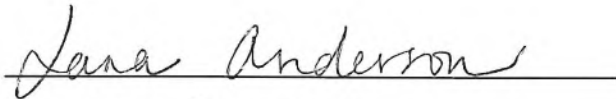


The Boardman To Hemingway Transmission Line Project proposal places lines about 2000 feet or less than half a mile from the La Grande city limits, including medium density housing within the city as well as Grande Ronde Hospital. If a line from this proposed route were to spark a fire, La Grande residents would have little time to react. According to National Geographic, wildfires can move as fast as 6.7 mph in forests and 14 mph in grasslands. A fast-moving fire starting at the B2H lines could move to residential areas of La Grande and HOSPITAL in 10 minutes. This is frightening and an unacceptable risk for our citizens.

The current proposal for a Boardman to Hemingway transmission line does not adequately address the issue of landslides, basically by stating it will be mitigated somehow when the time comes to build. The proposal offers no analysis of wildfire risk, which is an unacceptable omission. All of the routes proposed are unsafe and create an unacceptable risk to the citizens of La Grande.

The Council should DENY the request for a site certificate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lana Anderson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Name: LANA ANDERSON

Address: 60689 Wood Road  
La Grande, OR. 97850

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Micah Anderson <micah.anderson4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 1:05 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** B2H Comment Submission  
**Attachments:** B2H Micah.pdf

Greetings!

Please find attached as a PDF my written comments in opposition to the Boardman to Hemmingway transmission line. Thank you for reading and considering all comments you receive.

Sincerely,

Micah Anderson  
La Grande, OR

August 10, 2019

Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E  
Salem, OR 97301

Email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

Morgan Lake Park, analyzed as part of the Morgan Lake Alternative - (Attachment T-3, Table T-2, p. T-3-2; Table T-3-1, p. T-13) and Summary of Impacts, pp. T-27-28, 43, (T-4-51-56), inaccurately describes features of the park itself and severely underestimates the permanent impact of development on this unique city park.

See OAR 345-021-0010 (1) (T) (A) (B) (D) & OAR 345-022-0100

*Morgan Lake Park is an important opportunity primarily because of its unique designation status as a city park, rareness, and special qualities per OAR 345-021-0010(1)(t)(A) Attachment T-3, Table T-3-1 (p. T-13)*

Page 62 (T-57) refers to “extensive work in the siting study of the Morgan Lake Alternative.” That is doubtful because it is completely inaccurate:

Page 145 (T-4-46) Morgan Lake Park is described as 204 acres, containing one lake, which is developed with primitive campsites and fishing docks.

Morgan Lake Park actually contains two lakes. Morgan Lake covers 70 acres; the other, Twin Lake, [also known as Little Morgan Lake] is in plain sight, within 300’ of Morgan Lake; it covers 27 acres.

Twin Lake is undeveloped, a wildlife and bird sanctuary, home to nesting bald eagles. In their application, Idaho Power omits any references to Twin Lake.

Page 156, (T-4-6) purports to be a map of Morgan Lake Park. According to the map legend, the purple cross hatch area is Morgan Lake Park. That’s wrong. The purple cross hatch is Morgan Lake. The actual boundaries of the 204 acre park are not indicated. Obviously, it’s difficult to believe “extensive work on this siting study” ever occurred.

2) b. A specific example of unsupported conclusion:



Page 145 (T-4-46) Baseline condition: "... A goal of minimal development of Morgan Lake Park should be maintained to preserve the maximum natural setting and to encourage solitude, isolation, and limited visibility of users..."

Page 146 (T-4-47) "The landscape character is natural appearing. Scenic integrity is high as the human developments are harmonious with the landscape."

Page 49 (T-44) "Vegetation will block views of the towers from most locations in the park."

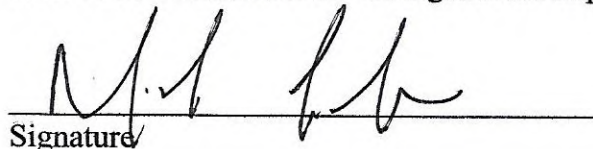
In reality, one tower would dominate the entrance to the park, all 130' in plain view. Within the Park, the trees bordering the lake are no more than 80' high. 130' transmission towers will rise more than 50' above those trees, dominating the current landscape.

Idaho Power does not provide a graphic representation of Morgan Lake Park, with the accurate height of existing trees, and elevation of towers above the trees. It simply concludes that the inescapable sight of 500 kV transmission lines and towers around a natural lake setting will have "no significant impact" on Morgan Lake Park.

This is the park whose baseline "should be maintained to preserve the maximum natural setting and to encourage solitude, isolation, and limited visibility of users" [because 50 years ago, no one ever imagined anything larger than a human being, might ever intrude]..."

Morgan Lake has long been a treasure to the local community, and especially to me and my family. My childhood memories of making the short walk from my home on Wood Road to the lake to fish, ice skate, or cross country ski do not include offensive noise of buzzing powerlines, lack of wildlife due to habitat decimation, or the constant worry of wildfire quite literally in my backyard. My hope is that logic will prevail, and my own children--who are blessed to grow up in the same place I did--wont have to rely on how Morgan Lake "used to be."

I urge the Commission to deny this application for a site certificate until each comment submitted and sent to the Commission by August 22 has been thoroughly analyzed, and Idaho Power has provided credible evidence to support each of its conclusions of "no significant impact."



Signature

Micah Anderson  
60689 Wood Rd.  
La Grande, OR 97850

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** stephen anderson <anderson.stephen49@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 4:15 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** Idaho Power B2H

To whom it may concern, I can't believe that Oregon will again allow another despoilation of our environment at the hands of Idaho Power. It's ironic they can even purpose such an outrage given the wind power and solar energy that will make this project obsolete, and we Oregonians suffer this ill-considered power line. My Great Great Grandfather traveled the Oregon Trail in 1852, so our family has a long history in Oregon. We have not forgotten such debacles as Brownlee Reservoir, which was built before the lawsuits against it made it to court, which effectively ended the salmon and steelhead runs in the upper Snake River, a disaster that cost we Americans uncountable billions in value of those fish. Idaho Power cares not a whit for we the public, or this would never have been given consideration. Please do the right thing and tell Idaho Power this power line does not belong in the great state of Oregon, and for once do what is right for the majority opinion.

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Colin Andrew <candrew@eou.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** [Fortimail Spam Detected] EFSC Comment  
**Attachments:** B2H candrew.pdf

To whom it may concern:

Please accept the attached EFSC Comment regarding the proposed B2H transmission line

Sincerely,  
Colin Andrew

--

Dr. Colin R. Andrew  
Professor of Chemistry  
Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry  
Eastern Oregon University  
La Grande  
OR 97850



August 21, 2019

Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E  
Salem, OR 97301

Email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

Morgan Lake Park, analyzed as part of the Morgan Lake Alternative - (Attachment T-3, Table T-2, p. T-3-2; Table T-3-1, p. T-13) and Summary of Impacts, pp. T-27-28, 43, (T-4-51-56), inaccurately describes features of the park itself and severely underestimates the permanent impact of development on this unique city park.

See OAR 345-021-0010 (1) (T) (A) (B) (D) & OAR 345-022-0100

*Morgan Lake Park is an important opportunity primarily because of its unique designation status as a city park, rareness, and special qualities per OAR 345-021-0010(1)(t)(A) Attachment T-3, Table T-3-1 (p. T-13)*

Page 62 (T-57) refers to “extensive work in the siting study of the Morgan Lake Alternative.” That is doubtful because it is completely inaccurate:

Page 145 (T-4-46) Morgan Lake Park is described as 204 acres, containing one lake, which is developed with primitive campsites and fishing docks.

Morgan Lake Park actually contains two lakes. Morgan Lake covers 70 acres; the other, Twin Lake, [also known as Little Morgan Lake] is in plain sight, within 300’ of Morgan Lake; it covers 27 acres.

Twin Lake is undeveloped, a wild life and bird sanctuary, home to nesting bald eagles. In their application, Idaho Power omits any references to Twin Lake.

Page 156, (T-4-6) purports to be a map of Morgan Lake Park. According to the map legend, the purple cross hatch area is Morgan Lake Park. That’s wrong. The purple cross hatch is Morgan Lake. The actual boundaries of the 204 acre park are not indicated. Obviously, it’s difficult to believe “extensive work on this siting study” ever occurred.

2) b. A specific example of unsupported conclusion:

Page 145 (T-4-46) Baseline condition: “... A goal of minimal development of Morgan Lake Park should be maintained to preserve the maximum natural setting and to encourage solitude, isolation, and limited visibility of users...”

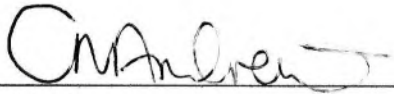
Page 146 (T-4-47) “The landscape character is natural appearing. Scenic integrity is high as the human developments are harmonious with the landscape.”

Page 49 (T-44) “Vegetation will block views of the towers from most locations in the park.” In reality, one tower would dominate the entrance to the park, all 130’ in plain view. Within the Park, the trees bordering the lake are no more than 80’ high. 130’ transmission towers will

Idaho Power does not provide a graphic representation of Morgan Lake Park, with the accurate height of existing trees, and elevation of towers above the trees. It simply concludes that the inescapable sight of 500 kV transmission lines and towers around a natural lake setting will have "no significant impact" on Morgan Lake Park.

This is the park whose baseline "should be maintained to preserve the maximum natural setting and to encourage solitude, isolation, and limited visibility of users" [because 50 years ago, no one ever imagined anything larger than a human being, might ever intrude]..."

I urge the Commission to deny this application for a site certificate until each comment submitted and sent to the Commission by August 22 has been thoroughly analyzed, and Idaho Power has provided credible evidence to support each of its conclusions of "no significant impact."

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Colin Andrew", written over a horizontal line.

Signature

Name: Colin Andrew

Mailing Address: 95 Oak Street, La Grande, OR 97850

**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Margaret Anolfo <margaretanolfo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 18, 2019 12:55 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** The pipeline

This project has not really been run by the local people to get their input. This is a major farming area providing food for our region and nation. We want to be self-sustainable and we don't want outsiders coming in.



**ESTERSON Sarah \* ODOE**

---

**From:** Karen Antell <kantell@eou.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 21, 2019 4:09 PM  
**To:** B2H DPOComments \* ODOE  
**Subject:** [Fortimail Spam Detected] Idaho Power Site Certificate Application Comments Eastern Oregon University Aug 2019  
**Attachments:** Idaho Power Site Certificate Application Comment Eastern Oregon University Aug 2019.pdf

Please find attached our comments to the Oregon EFSC regarding the Idaho Power application for a Site Certificate for construction of the proposed B2H power line. Our comments are specific to route selection through Union County. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karen Antell, PhD  
Professor of Biology  
Eastern Oregon University  
La Grande, OR 97850  
541-910-4220 (cell) - preferred until Sep.16, 2019  
541-962-3610 (office)



19 August 2019

To:

Energy Facilities Siting Council  
c/o Kellen Tardaewether, Senior Siting Analyst  
Oregon Department of Energy  
550 Capitol St. N.E.  
Salem, OR 97301  
email: [B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov](mailto:B2H.DPOComments@Oregon.gov)

From:

Dr. Karen Antell, PhD  
Professor of Biology  
Eastern Oregon University  
One University Blvd.  
La Grande, OR 97850  
[kantell@eou.edu](mailto:kantell@eou.edu)

**Subject: Idaho Power Application for a Site Certificate for the Boardman to Hemmingway Transmission Project, 9/28/2018; Draft Proposed Order 5/22/2019.**

Dear Chair Beyeler and Members of the Council:

On behalf of Eastern Oregon University and myself, I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Boardman to Hemmingway Transmission Line (B2H) project's application for a Site Certificate. I am Professor of Biology at Eastern Oregon University (EOU), and have been on the faculty since 1987. I am personally and professionally knowledgeable about the biological/ecological qualities of the Glass Mountain area in Union County. I have served as Chair of the Advisory Board of EOU's Rebarrow Research Forest, which is located on Glass Mountain (also known as Glass Hill) in close proximity to both the Proposed Mill Creek Route and the Morgan Lake Alternate Route.

I am writing to express our concerns about B2H project compliance with several of Oregon's Administrative Rules, including those governing Fish and Wildlife Habitat (OAR 635-415), Threatened and Endangered Species (OAR 635-100), Noxious Weeds (OAR 603-052), and Statewide Planning Goal 4, Forest Lands (OAR 660-015-0004 and 660-006-0025). We believe that on the Glass Mountain segment in Union County Oregon, both the Proposed Mill

Creek Route and the Morgan Lake Alternate Route would be in violation of each of these Oregon Administrative Rules. We request that the Oregon EFSC recommend to not authorize the proposed development action on either route in Union County.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat:

According to Exhibit P1-Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Species, in the Amended Preliminary Application for Site Certificate, 65.96% of the project area is on land designated as ODFW Habitat Category 2; 13.45% on land designated Category 3; 4.65% on land designated Category 4; 7.62% on land designated Category 5; and 8.31% on land designated Category 6. This indicates that nearly 80% (79.41%) of the total project will affect lands designated Habitat Categories 2 and 3. On both the Proposed Mill Creek Route and the Morgan Lake Alternate Route, the proportion likely is closer to 100%.

According to OAR 635-415-0025: "Habitat Category 2 is essential habitat for a fish or wildlife species, population, or unique assemblage of species and is limited either on a physiographic province or site-specific basis depending on the individual species, population or unique assemblage." State goals specify that there should be "no net loss of either habitat quantity or quality" through "avoidance of impacts through alternatives to the proposed development action" or through mitigation. Avoidance of impact is always preferable to mitigation.

OAR 635-415-0025 states the following:

(b) The Department shall act to achieve the mitigation goal for Category 2 habitat by recommending or requiring:

(A) Avoidance of impacts through alternatives to the proposed development action; or

(B) Mitigation of impacts, if unavoidable, through reliable in-kind, in-proximity habitat mitigation to achieve no net loss of either pre-development habitat quantity or quality. In addition, a net benefit of habitat quantity or quality must be provided. Progress towards achieving the mitigation goals and standards shall be reported on a schedule agreed to in the mitigation plan performance measures. The fish and wildlife mitigation measures shall be implemented and completed either prior to or concurrent with the development action.

(c) If neither 635-415-0025(2)(b)(A) or (B) can be achieved, **the Department shall recommend against or shall not authorize the proposed development action.**

It is our opinion that neither 635-415-0025(2)(b)(A) or (B) can be achieved. Both the proposed and alternate routes across Glass Mountain contain several areas with habitat qualities that do not occur elsewhere in the region. The unique qualities of this area preclude the possibility that "reliable in-kind, in-proximity habitat mitigation" can be accomplished successfully.



Within the proposed project areas on Glass Mountain, ridge-top springs feed meadows and wetlands (Winn Meadow, Bushnell Meadow, Morgan Lake, Twin Lake) that sustain wildlife throughout the year. These areas harbor state listed species of concern, such as Douglas' Clover (*Trifolium douglasii*), and many other associated uncommon native wetland plants. The geological and hydrological underpinnings that give rise to these springs have not been studied. Construction of B2H towers may irreversibly damage hydrologic resources. It is likely that construction of tower bases along the margins of these wetland areas would have potentially significant adverse effects on the hydrology, resulting in diminished water flow. This loss would be catastrophic to both plants and animals throughout the area.

The corridor of land ranging from Eastern Oregon University's Rebarrow Forest, eastward through Winn Meadow (Joel Rice property), and onto the Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area (ODFW), represents an important pathway for wildlife passage between summer range on the upper elevations of Glass Mountain and winter range on the Grande Ronde Valley below. In addition to ODFW biologists, private landowners on Glass Mtn. (including Eastern Oregon University and Dr. Joel Rice), have worked hard to be good stewards of the ecologically unique habitats on Glass Mtn. At EOU, we have engaged community participation through the Rebarrow Research Forest Community Stewardship Project to promote forest habitat restoration. Disruption of this corridor by the B2H project would create an irreplaceable loss of wildlife habitat. There simply is no way to mitigate for this loss.

As more and more landscape-altering projects are permitted and constructed, we have come to rely increasingly on mitigation for protection of at-risk species and communities, yet, a growing body of scientific evidence shows that mitigation projects cannot guarantee a reasonable level of protection for at-risk native communities. In an evaluation of mitigation project success, the Washington State Department of Ecology concluded that out of twenty-five projects studied, only three were found to be fully successful (Wetland Mitigation Evaluation Study Phase 2: Executive summary, February 2002).

Glass Mountain represents uniquely intact habitat that spans both upper and lower elevation areas utilized by a wide variety of plants and wildlife. In fact, areas of Glass Mountain have been suggested for potential mitigation for other projects, such as the Antelope Ridge wind development, which was permitted, but ultimately not constructed. In other words, if Glass Mountain represents the best remaining habitat of its kind for potential mitigation of other projects, then it would be completely irresponsible for the EFSC to approve damage to this habitat, destroying the last best area for future protection of disappearing ecosystems.

In Table S-3 of the DEIS Executive Summary, Residual Effects on Wildlife, impacts to virtually all wildlife groups are rated as Moderate to High, both for initial and residual impact. Specific impacts include mortality due to bird strikes, noise disturbance, introduction of human presence, disruption of breeding and foraging behavior, habitat loss and modification, fragmentation and loss of connectivity. All of these impacts are difficult to mitigate, especially when the affected area comprises some of the highest quality habitat available in the area. There simply are no good mitigation alternatives for most of this habitat. Therefore:

**In concurrence with OAR 635-415-0025, we request that the Oregon EFSC deny the site certificate and recommend to not authorize the proposed development action in Union County (Proposed Mill Creek Route and/or Morgan Lake Alternate Route).**

Threatened and Endangered Species:

A review of an article published in the esteemed scientific journal Nature states that: “An estimated million species worldwide could face potential extinction as a result of climate changes predicted to occur in the next 50 years, according to a 2004 report in the scientific journal Nature” (Live Science, <https://www.livescience.com/10575-species-relocated-prevent-extinction.html>; 8/19/2019). Many of these extinctions will take place at lower elevations where the combined effects of reduced water and higher temperatures will result in shrinking of high quality habitat and promotion of invasive species.

OAR 635-100 provides a list of Threatened and Endangered Species in the state of Oregon. At least three listed species occur within the B2H Glass Mtn. project area, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, and *Trifolium douglasii*. Fisheries biologists from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have documented their concern about anadromous fish on Glass Mtn. Douglas’ Clover (*Trifolium douglasii*) occurs within a very limited geographic range. Construction of the Morgan Lake Alternate Route would have significant adverse effects on well-established populations on Glass Mtn., especially in the Winn Meadow area. Additionally, I personally, have documented presence of an adult Columbia Spotted Frog (*Rana luteiventris*) at Morgan Lake, which is a federal Species of Concern and an Oregon state Sensitive species. Because virtually all of Glass Mtn. is privately owned, few biologists have had access to survey for threatened species throughout the area in a systematic process. It is likely that the area still holds some surprises with respect to rare species. Nesting birds and amphibians especially are notoriously reclusive and difficult to document without significant targeted and repeated effort.

In contrast to the better-documented vertebrate species, we know virtually nothing about invertebrate species throughout NE Oregon, especially on Glass Mtn. Biologists have surveyed for a few targeted species of concern on surrounding USFS lands, especially native bees most recently, but biodiversity on the private lands of Glass Mtn. remains largely undocumented.

Mitigation or attempts to relocate rare species to other locations are notoriously highly unsuccessful. Species are rare because they require specific conditions of soil, temperature, moisture, competition, and other criteria. Because of the high quality habitat that currently exists on Glass Mtn., few mitigation options are available that could offset the loss of this habitat. Therefore:

**In concurrence with OAR 635-100, we request that the Oregon EFSC deny the site certificate and recommend to not authorize the proposed development action in Union County (Proposed Mill Creek Route and/or Morgan Lake Alternate Route).**

### Noxious Weeds:

The state of Oregon governs the control of Noxious Weeds through specific state statutes (OAR 603-052). Anyone who has had the day-to-day task of controlling noxious weeds realizes that attempting to prevent spread of these plants becomes an unsustainable and impossible task when confronted with miles of newly disturbed land, such as would occur with B2H site construction, and development and maintenance of access roads.

The B2H project DEIS predicts the impact on noxious weeds as high initially and low residual. The residual impact is very likely underestimated in the DEIS. On-going clearing of vegetation within the project right-of-way and expansion of roads throughout the area will result in continual introduction of invasive species over the long term. Climate change will exacerbate the challenges of controlling invasive species, especially on lower elevation, drier sites.

According to OAR 603-052-1200: "Noxious weeds have been declared a menace to the public welfare (ORS 569.180 and 569.350) because of the environmental and economic degradation that occurs when they become established." Therefore:

**In concurrence with OAR 603-052, we request that the Oregon EFSC deny the site certificate and recommend to not authorize the proposed development action in Union County (Proposed Mill Creek Route and/or Morgan Lake Alternate Route).**

### Statewide Planning Goal 4, Forest Lands:

Union County has zoned the lands of Glass Mountain as Zone 4A, Timber-Grazing Zone. This zone is created under Statewide Planning Goal 4, Forest Lands, which has as its purpose the conservation of forestlands (OAR 660-015-0004 and 660-006-0025). The FEIS states that the greatest disturbance on Glass Mtn. will be to "Mixed Conifer Forest vegetation communities" (p. 3-2177). The routing of the B2H power line across Glass Mountain via either the Proposed Mill Creek Route or the Morgan Lake Alternate Route, would severely affect forest and natural resources. The detrimental effects include soil disturbance and compaction, introduction of invasive species, tree removal, reduced seedling recruitment, interruption of wildlife habitat, and disruption of public enjoyment of natural forest ecosystems for recreation, hunting, bird watching, and other activities.

Disruption of public enjoyment of Oregon's protected Forest Lands would be especially severe along the Morgan Lake Alternate Route with its close proximity to the city of La Grande's Morgan Lake Park. Many residents of La Grande, as well as visitors to the area, enjoy Morgan Lake Park. It represents a uniquely well-preserved natural forest area close to the city limits, providing refuge to a wide variety of birds, both forest species and waterfowl. Because of protection from livestock grazing, it hosts some of the most abundant wildflower populations on Glass Mountain. Presence of a large, new power line within the view shed would have a severe negative impact on the use and enjoyment of the area by the public, and



would be in contradiction to the intent of Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 4 for Forest Lands. Therefore:

**In concurrence with OAR 660-015 and 660-006, we request that the Oregon EFSC deny the site certificate and recommend to not authorize the proposed development action in Union County (Proposed Mill Creek Route and/or Morgan Lake Alternate Route).**

In summary, we conclude that in regards to fish and wildlife habitat, threatened species, noxious weeds, and Oregon's statewide planning goals governing use of Zone A4 (Timber-Grazing), construction of the B2H power line along either the Proposed Mill Creek or Morgan Lake Alternate Routes, would be in violation of several Oregon statutes, as outlined above. As a professional biologist, I conclude that the Final Environmental Impact Statement dramatically underestimates the negative impacts to the area in multiple ways. In original planning documents, a third route located to the west of the Morgan Lake Alternate Route was proposed that would avoid many of the ecological problems associated with the two routes which the EFSC is now considering. Both the BLM and the USFS, the public agencies tasked with preserving the public's best interest in siting of a potential new power line, chose that route as their preferred alternative.

The EFSC has, at the core of its mission, the charge to insure that the best interests of all Oregonians are respected and protected, as new energy development projects such as the proposed B2H power line progress through the permitting process. As outlined above, we think there are several important issues regarding protection of forest and wetland habitats on Glass Mountain that have not been adequately addressed in the FEIS and planning process. Therefore:

**We urge the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council to fulfill your responsibility to all Oregonians, both present and future, by denying the site certificate and not authorizing the proposed B2H development action in Union County (Proposed Mill Creek Route and/or Morgan Lake Alternate Route).**

Sincerely,



Dr. Karen Antell, Professor of Biology  
Eastern Oregon University; Science Office  
One University Blvd.  
La Grande, OR 97859  
[kantell@eou.edu](mailto:kantell@eou.edu)  
541-962-3610 (office); 541-910-4220 (cell)

August 22, 2019

To: EFFC

Let me preface this letter with, **we do not trust Idaho Power**. You have not operated in good faith or been truthful. You have trespassed on our land without our knowledge and then lied about it. We as well as our neighbors found your markers on our property, you lied and said we had given you permission to enter our land. NOT TRUE!!

We here on Luciani Ranch are 2nd generation farmers with a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation on the way. It has always been very important to us to be paramount stewards of the land. We have taken pride in preserving our land for not only our generation, but for the generations of Children and Grandchildren ahead. With our farming operation being dryland, preventing land erosion is of utmost concern. We have put hundreds of thousands of dollars into changing our operation to chem- fallow because of highly erodible land that comes with dryland farming. We have never allowed people to drive onto our range or farmland due to the disruption it causes physically and aesthetically! Most people don't realize that with land erosion comes weeds and land scars that will **never** heal.

Not only do we do all we can to protect our land, we also are stewards for the wildlife habitat, we have placed guzzlers all over our farm to provide water for small wildlife, planted CRP with wildlife food plots to provide for the wildlife, this all helps preserve the land for future generations and once more protects the land from water and wind erosion. We have gone to the expense of raising pheasant's and chucker's with surrogater's, not for hunting, but for building the herd for future generations.

What would be the ramifications of a huge transmission line's going through our property?

- Land erosion
- Irreversible land scaring and damage
- Ongoing traffic for line repair
- Aerial spray applications will be limited for critical late summer sprayings, they will not come within thousands of feet within the towers. How do you control your weed when the plane cannot get within 2000 feet of the towers and it's too dusty to spray with a ground sprayer?
- Drastic land devaluation
- Possibility of more lines to come, taking out more parcels of land which would more than likely run us out of business.

**Safety of living and equipment under the lines:**

- ❖ possible electrocution from non-grounded equipment
- ❖ Multiple Sclerosis
- ❖ brain cancer
- ❖ childhood and adult leukemia
- ❖ Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS)
- ❖ Alzheimer's disease

- ❖ breast cancer in women and men
- ❖ miscarriage, birth defects, reproductive problems decreased libido
- ❖ fatigue, depression and suicide, diseases
- ❖ Hormonal imbalances
- ❖ Heart disease, neuro-degenerative diseases, sleeping disorder and many others.

All points of information can be verified at <http://emwatch.com/power-line-emf/>

The bottom line, in addition to all the points listed, we love where we live and many years ago chose this life style and at this late point in our lives we have no other options to make a living. Farming is not an easy life or an easy way to make a living before the added complications of your power lines, but it is our way of life. The **only reason** we built our home where it is placed, was because of the majestic view of Mount Adams from our living room window and the views each direction around our home of the beautiful rolling hills, wildlife, blue skylines and billowy clouds, it's all pretty simple stuff but important to us. All these aesthetics would be destroyed should your power line be anywhere physically or within visual view of our property. **WE DO NOT WANT THIS VIEW DESTROYED.** The value of our property would be diminished significantly if your power lines were to be near, on or visual from anywhere on our property. **We do not want and will not allow the Boardman to Hemmingway power line to go through or anywhere near our property physically or visually.**

Contrary to the untruth which we have been led to believe, we have since learned that these existing lines **"can be stacked"** on new poles going down the existing corridor of I-84. **To limit environmental disaster, this is our recommendation for your project.** Our pristine farm land and beautiful views are precious and limited, no more can or will be made.

John H Luciani

Karen Luciani

Adam Archer

Rachel Archer

Riley Archer

Jules Archer