

May 25, 2023

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing to follow-up my original letter dated April 12, 2023 supplied to OPUC by Wendy King (4-12-2023, Cross Examination & Exhibits pg. 25)

I appreciate the tremendous work ahead of the OPUC in determining the approval or denial of Idaho Powers CPCN. From my perspective as an Oregonian and private landowner of Exclusive Farm Use property, I continue to have grave concerns about the B2H project. I request the Commission deny the certificate siting Public Safety as the prevailing reason.

While I have in good faith, offered an alternate portion of my property to satisfy an alternate route, no one from Idaho Power has contacted me to discuss my offer.

The B2H line will provide a new risk of wildfire ignition and yet Idaho Power does not provide any evidence that the risk has been analyzed for my unique windy and low humidity location. There is consequence for my cropland value and yet Idaho Power views it a collateral damage that simply doesn't matter. My father has documented soil damage from fire and I am not in a financial position to remedy future soil destruction from fire to bring my cropland back to pre-fire yields.

After taking notes of the Fire Prevention and Suppression Plans and viewing the 2023 WMP for Idaho Power service territory, I am not comfortable with this 500kV transmission line crossing my dryland wheat operations. The plans lack specificity and places the task of fire suppression or decision to not suppress, in the hands of contractors. My farm is rural and lacks any nearby fire agency that can quickly address a fire. Even more troublesome is the fact that I will have no ability to address a fire near or under the line because I, my family, or employees might be electrocuted from the arc that can occur through the smoke.

Lastly, I have been contacted by solar developers that are drawn to my lands because of the presence of B2H. To these developers the value of my cropland is far above the value Idaho Power will place on it and relevant to the value Idaho Power will have to consider to gain easement. If Idaho Power is considering the cost of an alternate route that avoids EFU properties as prohibitive, perhaps they need to re-evaluate the value of my lands as calculated by demand from solar and wind developers.

Respectfully Submitted,

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