

October 13, 2016

To the Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission.

My name is Kerrin McCall. I am a member of the Ketchum Energy Advisory Committee, the “disbanded” Wood River Renewable Energy Working Group and, since 2014, the Community Advisory Committee for the Wood River Electrical Plan. I have been involved in addressing the redundant line proposal for the nearly 7 years.

I will make the following points. Many of you have heard them before. They still have significance.

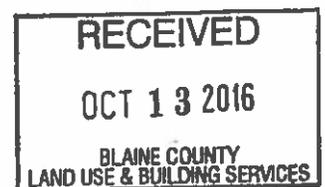
The outage history of the existing line is minimal. In the last 20 years there have been 2 momentary outages, less than 5 minutes, 2 sustained outages the longest being 58 minutes. And 3 maintenance outages. The 2009 outage resulted from the failure of one line and the failure of its redundant line.

In 1095 the PUC ruled that “If longer and more frequent outages occur in the future or if the company experiences substantial growth in the K SV area it would once again be appropriate to examine options. Neither of these scenarios has occurred.

Local outages are subject to outages in the greater grid. A redundant line has no resilience in those situations.

IPCo says that repairs to the exiting line will entail far too many hours of outages. However, it is my understanding that hot repairs can be accomplished. This approach needs further discussion.

Redundancy addressed by the proposed line fails in the area of Buttercup and the Valley Club where both lines would be in close proximity.



Idaho Power has done nothing to assist our community in developing energy resilience, even though they have the pretense of doing so. In our last CAC meeting on the redundant line the idea of redundant distribution (discussed by IPCo as an entirely new approach) was presented to the committee as a way to assist in developing a project that could accommodate our efforts for self-reliance and resilience. The concept was dropped completely when IPCO determined that it would be too expensive.

After 14 months meeting with the WRREWG to develop a pilot project for a replicable renewable energy IPCO filed with the PUC to halt all commercial and community solar. When I asked why they brought us to the table and then filed with the PUC to halt efforts, the response was “We didn’t see so much solar coming on so fast.” Energy is their business. The volunteer members could see it coming on , but not the industry representatives.

This brings me to the energy storage issue. IPCo does not see or chooses not to acknowledge the near future of affordable energy storage.

When suggested 4 years ago that the company become involve in leasing, selling and installing PV panels on homes and businesses, a way in which to develop an emergent business model, they remained closed to the idea. Resistant to the changing world of energy. Trapped in an antiquated paradigm.

Military bases are redesigning their energy systems to be off grid and resilient

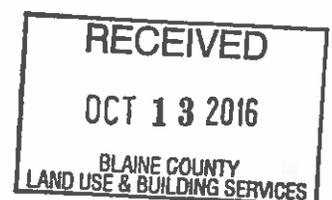
Sun Valley Company has a huge opportunity to assist in North Valley resilience with distributed PV generation and hydro.



We are on the edge of an entirely new world of energy generation, actually over the edge and delving deeply into actual systems all over the world. To continue with old business, the business of corporate profit and shareholders returns is destroying our planet, our home, the lands and systems that are sustaining for life.

We need to think in new ways, turning away from coal as quickly as possible, turning away from the destructive tendencies that have been perpetuated for far too long at the detriment of the well being of all.

We do not need to design a redundant transmission line into our valley. We need to redesign our way of thinking.



pzcounter

From: ALISON STONE <ALISNSTONE@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2016 4:21 PM
To: pzcounter
Subject: RE: NRG Resiliency and Sustainable Energy Strategy and Feasibility Study Proposal to Ketchum

I am very upset about the commission even entertaining the possibility of allowing transmission lines to mar our landscape and views along the highway. I am a resident of Starweather and did not buy a home in East Fork because of the transmission lines there. They are hideous and unhealthy for people who live nearby them.

Alison Stone

