

pzcounter

From: Dick Fosbury
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 7:46 AM
To: pzcounter
Subject: FW: [BULK] Upcoming Redundant Line meeting Feb 9 County Commissioners

FYI...

From: Michelle Pabarcus <mpdesignsolutions@hotmail.co.uk>
Sent: Saturday, February 6, 2021 5:57 PM
To: Dick Fosbury <dfosbury@co.blaine.id.us>
Subject: [BULK] Upcoming Redundant Line meeting Feb 9 County Commissioners

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FEB - 8 2021

BLAINE COUNTY
LAND USE & BUILDING SERVICES

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PROTECT THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY

Protect the beauty. Protect our health. Protect our safety. Protect our property.



**County Commissioners to Meet Feb 8, Tuesday
to discuss allowing and financing**

ID Power to erect a Redundant Power Line in WRV.

Write, Call, Let your voice be heard about your position on this change in conditional use.

Hailey Feb 9

*Old Blaine County Courthouse,
206 First Avenue S., Hailey, Idaho 83333*

1:30pm ...open to public

Join the meeting online from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/238328517>

Dial in using your phone. +1 (224) 501-3412

Access Code: 238-328-517

Save scenic corridor from overhead lines

Idaho Power has been trying to get an overhead transmission line in our scenic view corridor for the past six years. The Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of County Commissioners have been reviewing,

denying, rehearing, reconditioning, etc., conditional-use permits for the project to proceed, as long as it is underground.

But now, **the commissioners have proposed a compromise** such that in one section of the Redundant High Voltage Transmission line would be above ground from north of Hailey to Owl Rock ... while **Under-grounding only the utility lines to limit the number of wires visually. This would leave the large metal poles and the power lines above ground.**

This would still be in violation of their scenic corridor ordinance.

Consider the following:

The high voltage redundant transmission line would **still be unprotected to adverse events, such as fire.** If the main line was affected by a fire, there is the probability that this redundant back up line would be affected too, as they are very close to each other and are coming from the same base station.

Having any part of the power lines above ground, there is the **possibility there would not be the backup power in our the time of need.** Yet, this is the reason the PUC is insisting we have this line. Having the power lines above ground defeats this purpose.

This latest proposal has made the **height of the metal polls shorter**. This helps with the visual aspect, but means the dangerous **AC magnetic field of the power lines will be in closer proximity to people's home, the bike path and the roads** we drive on. This is putting our health at risk.

They are also **allowing Cox the ability to put their telecommunication equipment on these power polls** too. This will **enable Cox to install 5G small cell tower boxes on the polls**. There is alarming scientific evidence that the new infrastructure of 5G, on top of existing electrical and wireless infrastructures, will cause significant harm to nature and mankind. This is not a solution for our community.(Please go to www.protectthewoodrivervalley to read more on these topics.)

Idaho Power has enlisted support from the **Idaho Public Utilities Commission** to tell us that we have to have this redundant transmission line.

Idaho Power has told the county commissioners that all of us ratepayers have to pay for this line, which will have overhead power lines and utilities buried from north of Hailey to Owl Rock Road. And all would be buried from Owl Rock Road through Ketchum and Sun Valley.

Idaho Power will make \$13.3 million in interest and fees for the 20-plus years it takes us all to pay for this new line, which is totally redundant.

The only time in our recent history (2009) that power was off for an extended period of time was when power was not reaching the Hailey substation! This line will not eliminate that possibility!

Call and write your county commissioners!

Attend the meeting - let your voice be heard.

Ask them why Idaho Power even has the right for a new decision on the conditional use permit that has already been issued. Tell them to go before the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and verify whether it is our responsibility to pay for this transmission line that we don't even need.

The meeting on Feb. 9 is a chance for our commissioners to deny or allow Idaho Power to permanently deface our scenic view corridor. They need to hear from you if you don't want that to happen. They need to hear from all of you!

Our tourism-based economy and the residents' enjoyment of the Valley depends on good stewardship from us all.

Please take action.

Cindy Mann

Carey

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