

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
17 South 1st Street
Nyssa, OR 97913

January 29, 2015

Boardman to Hemmingway Transmission Line Project
P.O. Box 655
Vale, OR 97918

RE: Boardman to Hemmingway Transmission Line Project

Greetings:

I am the District Manager for the Owyhee Irrigation District. I am submitting these comments on behalf of Owyhee Irrigation District.

The proposed route near the Owyhee River creates potential problems with Bureau of Reclamation and Irrigation District facilities that the Malheur S Alternative does not. The topography of the land east of the Owyhee River where the proposed route is to cross the Owyhee River is highly unstable. The construction and location of the proposed power line in that area could cause catastrophic loss of the Kingman Lateral resulting in possible flooding and damage to the proposed power line itself. The lateral has slid off of the mountain in this area before. If the power line were to be constructed in this area, substantial mitigation, including the possible piping of the Kingman Lateral would be required. This area also includes an access road to the North Canal of the Owyhee Project and the Kingman Lateral. This is an area of high activity for personnel and heavy equipment. The placement of the power line in this area will put not only the heavy equipment and personnel at risk, but also the power line.

The Owyhee Irrigation District Board of Directors recommends that the Malheur S Alternative be designated the preferred route.

Very truly yours,



Jay Chamberlin,
District Manager

CC: Jerrold Gregg, USBR



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