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**From:** EnviroLytical - B2H <info@envirolytical.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 19, 2015 1:51 PM  
**To:** comment@boardmantoemingway.com  
**Subject:** New Communication: Please consider these comments in addition to those hand delivered to the BLM office on March 18 to Vail Oregon. Myself and others have been very concerned about the process used in citing

**Flag Status:** Flagged

Brad Allen <bradallen4030@hotmail.com>

<https://el2.envirolytical.com/communication/view/103311>

Please consider these comments in addition to those hand delivered to the BLM office on March 18 to Vail Oregon.

Myself and others have been very concerned about the process used in citing the route. I was informed today that land owned by Idaho power company for mitigation purposes near Richland Oregon, containing sage grouse was side skirted moving the line to private lands with possibly more sage grouse and better habitat. Private landowners in this area are older people who may not understand the impacts.

I have heard numerous stories of routes being changed because of particular landowner resistance. Idaho power company has put neighbors at odds with each other, and followed routes of least public resistance. These routes do not necessarily reflect good reasoning. For example, The proposed route over Glass Hill, was to pass through Forest land owned by Eastern Oregon University and a couple other neighboring properties of mine. Because EOU and a couple other neighboring properties did not want the transmission line. The route was changed as to not impact these properties, just placing the burden on other properties with the same impacts. Since I confronted EOU property land manager, asking why her property deserves a preference over others, We now have been put at odds with each other. She no longer speaks to me.

Property owners along the routes have not been treated justly. Winners and losers have been picked all along the way. For example, Idaho power avoiding their own land, Forest service land being avoided, lands owned by EOU being avoided, lands owned by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife being avoided, and then sticking it on private land owners. Me being one of them.

The route has done nothing more than follow a path of perceived least resistance. Standards for citing the transmission line have varied from place to place. For example, separation criteria for existing transmission lines in Baker County is not the same as the criteria used in Union County. In a letter from Idaho power company to me, project manager Todd Adams, exclaimed the same methodology for citing the line was used along the entire route. This does not appear to be the case.

There is a lot of question in our communities as to the need for this transmission line being built at all. Any information that I could gather concluded that Oregon's Energy supply is adequate. We produce excess energy in this state. I do not believe it is legal to use eminent domain in Oregon to ship power outside of this state.

Land should not be condemned in Oregon to sell power to other states.

I understand Oregon PUC has acknowledged the need for the transmission line. However, there should be more clarification so private landowners, and stakeholders, can better assess the actual need of electricity in this state. The desire to connect the transmission of power from state to state, does not necessarily establish a need in Oregon. It is wrong, and illegal to condemn Oregon private land to ship power outside the state.

Thank you for considering these additional comments that were submitted March 18 to the Vail BLM office.

Owner of Elk Song Ranch  
Brad Allen