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From: buddy359@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:08 PM
To: comment@boardmantohemingway.com
Subject: BLM- Draft EIS Response to Boardman to Hemingway

Dear Sir,

I have had an opportunity to review the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Boardman to Hemingway project.

I am very interested in preserving Oregon historical sites and have special interest in preserving the remnants of the Oregon Trail in the eastern part of the state. Upon review of the draft EIS, I have several concerns about the impact of the powerline to the trail. They are as follows:

--The current proposed route closely follows the Oregon Trail and crosses it several times. The sight of the huge transmission towers and power lines will cause severe impairment of the "view" from the trail and ruin the trail experience which trail enthusiasts treasure. The view will forever be lost.

-- The proposed route which has been chosen within view of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center at Flagstaff Hill, will ruin the view and trail experience which visitors are entitled to enjoy. The transmission towers will dominate the view from the center and will destroy the "remote feeling" one experiences when hiking the on-site trail ruts. The purpose of the center is to showcase the both the trail and its view, both of which will be severely degraded.

-- Avoid using the Tub Mountain South Alternate as it would destroy the remote historic view when visiting the Alkali Spring/Tub Spring area.

-- Avoid the Birch Creek trail segment which in it's current state offers a pristine experience to tourists visiting Oregon via. the Oregon Trail.

-- The proposed power line routes are not compatible with the Oregon Trail and alternate routes must be investigated and seriously considered. Consider using existing power line corridors to Idaho or relocating along the existing power lines which are connected to the three Snake River dams.

Every measure should be taken to protect the Oregon Trail, the trail ruts and the view which the pioneers experienced when they first came to settle Oregon.

Regards,

Richard Herman
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