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From: EnviroLytical - B2H <info@envirolytical.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 1:09 PM
To: comment@boardmantohemingway.com
Subject: New Communication: I strongly oppose the Boardman to Hemmingway transmission line crossing any part of Glass Hill.

Lloyd Royer <gunsmoke1944@yahoo.com>

<https://el2.envirolytical.com/communication/view/103294>

I strongly oppose the Boardman to Hemmingway transmission line crossing any part of Glass Hill. Building a power line over the Glass Hill area would be like building a railroad through beachfront property. It will simply destroy the natural environment.

There are several reasons the proposed line should be changed. The obvious reasons are the long term negative impact on wildlife habitat, the obtrusive visual impact of the project, and the encroachment on private landowners, which have striven to keep their properties undeveloped. By following the existing 230 kv route, wildlife habitat, visual aesthetics and the impact imposed on private landowners would be minimized. The 230power line is located in areas already developed.

Currently, the existing 230 line blends into the surrounding environment. The new proposed line would not blend into the environment. It would do just the opposite emphasizing the unnatural towers and lines in the middle of a remote undeveloped landscape.

The new line routes as proposed by Idaho Power Company will have long term destructive consequences on wildlife and their habitat. These big lines are noisy and disturbing to wildlife, especially under damp conditions. This area hosts some of the richest elk habitat throughout Oregon. Its known to be populated year round for feeding, breeding and wintering for thousands of elk. Power lines should not be part of this wildlife area. The EFSC habitat standard is based on habitat value, regardless of whether the land is public or private. High category (category 1 or 2) habitat on private land is afforded the same protection under EFSC standards as similar category public land. The ODFW considers big game range as Habitat Category 2, which applies to Glass Hill. The EFSC expects Idaho Power to seriously consider alternate routes that are feasible and would reduce impact on private land.

There are good, better and best routes for Idaho Power to build a new transmission line. There is a consensus among a group of organized private land owners on Glass Hill that advocate the best route would be to follow the existing 230 kv line along Foothill Road and the foothills south of La Grande. Proceeding along this already created utility easement would be a less impact route and should be the route utilized.

Please consider the negative impacts the proposed routes would have on those who enjoy visiting Glass Hill, the landowners and the abundant wildlife.

Sincerely,
Lloyd Royer