

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project

Brogan Landowner Meeting Summary

Location: Brogan Community Event Center, Brogan, Oregon

Date: February 16, 2012

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Purpose and introduction: Idaho Power conducted a landowner meeting for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project to discuss a potential new 24.8 mile Willow Creek alternative route and explain Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) sage-grouse concerns in the area. The meeting allowed Idaho Power to provide information about the project, answer questions, solicit feedback and identify siting concerns.

Notification and attendance: Thirty landowners in the Brogan area who own land that is crossed by, or is adjacent to, the new alternate route, and local government staff and officials were notified by mail and invited to attend. The Project website calendar page displayed the meeting date and time, and a linked map of the Brogan Community Event Center location. Forty-one people attended, including Malheur County Planning Director Jon Beal, Assistant Planning Director Bill Lawrence, Brian Wolfe of Malheur County Sheriff's Office and Malheur County Judge Dan Joyce.

Format: The meeting featured an open house format with display boards and maps dispersed throughout the room. Stations included sign-in, project overview, local issues and constraints, and landowner maps (with ownership). Project staff encouraged attendees to take informational materials and submit marked-up maps with comment forms. Project staff also helped identify specific parcels on landowner maps. Project staff from Idaho Power Company, ODFW, Bureau of Land Management, Tetra Tech and EnviroIssues staffed the event.

Key questions and themes:

- Why not stick with the Idaho Power proposed route in this area? *Idaho Power is not changing its proposed route at this time. The Willow Creek Alternative is an alternate segment that Idaho Power has developed to address ODFW's concerns regarding a previously unidentified occupied sage-grouse lek in the Brogan area. ODFW also has concerns about crossing core sage grouse area. The Willow Creek Alternative crosses less core area and this portion of core area was suggested as an alternative by ODFW.*
- Why not completely avoid exclusive farm use (EFU) lands and prevent all impacts to irrigated farm lands and agricultural operations? *There are many constraints in this area, including occupied sage-grouse leks and private property. This public meeting gave landowners the opportunity to alert Idaho Power of specific impacts on their properties so the company can refine the Willow Creek alternative route.*