

✓ Gen. Ack sent 9/13/04
✓ To Comm. : H
✓ To Adv.

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Sunday, September 12, 2004 6:34 PM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Sunday, September 12, 2004
5:34:00 PM

Case: IPC-E-04-04
Name: Mary Kathleen Hamilton
Street Address: 774 W Aikens Ct.
City: Eagle
State: ID
ZIP: 83616
Home Telephone: (208) 939-3703
E-Mail: kmmurphyl@msn.com
Company: Idaho Power
mailing_list_yes_no: yes

Comment_description: I attended the hearing involving Idaho Power vs. the city of Eagle on Thursday evening, September 9, 2004. I did not speak at that hearing because of the many attendees and the obvious length of the meeting, however I would like to add my comments as a seven year resident of Eagle and an eleven year resident of Idaho. I do not have a background in engineering, electricity or any other utility and I speak simply for myself and my husband, who is a native Idahoan of 54 years.

We considered many locations in the greater Boise area before we selected our house in Eagle. We moved into the community of Eagle for all of the same reasons that I heard other people talk about in the meeting: the quality of life, sense of community, active city planning and development by the city counsel. Our property is not on State street but is next to it and parallels the road. We are very concerned about the proposed positioning of power lines high above State St and Hwy 44 for several reasons. Initially the obvious visibility (and ugliness) of the power poles and lines was our first objection...immediately followed by the almost equally obvious health hazards of positioning this in a residential area. We are also aware that there will be a significant negative impact on our property value. I can honestly say that we would not have considered purchasing our house had these proposed lines been in place on State St seven years ago.

I question the authority that allows a utility to be exempt from local city statutes that govern the way a community choses to look and grow. This could happen in any community and has probably taken place many times in the past. It's practice needs to be reconsidered. It takes away all the rights and authority of the individual, the community and places it in the hands of the utility.

I would suggest that when there is a conflict between a local statute and the utility that the utility be required to follow the local guidelines, as do all businesses within the city limits. That the utility be required to determine the difference in cost to conform to the local statute (which in this case should be to bury the lines) through the process of posting for open bids. That following this determination, a mandatory mediation would take place between the utility and the municipality to determine who would share in the increased cost of installation.

Without some sort of neutral party the city, the individual property owner as well as all businesses in the city are literally at the whim and mercy of the monopolistic utility. They rule as the final authority on how a community will look...in spite of the community's most earnest efforts to control their own fate. This is not a democratic process. Please help us control our own environment! We see it differently than the Idaho Power Company and we believe that we should have a choice in this country.

Transaction ID: 9121734.0
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 67.42.76.75
User Hostname: 67.42.76.75

✓ Gen Adm sent 9/13/04
✓ To AV.
✓ To Commis
to H

Jean Jewell

From: Ed Howell
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2004 8:27 AM
To: Jean Jewell; Ed Howell; Gene Fadness; Tonya Clark
Subject: Comment acknowledgement

WWW Form Submission:

Tuesday, September 07, 2004
7:27:07 AM

Case: IPC-E-04-04-CITY OF EAGLE
Name: Larry Jensen
Street Address: 922 Teton Ave
City: Caldwell
State: Idaho
ZIP: 83605

Home Telephone: 208 454-3695
E-Mail: le83605@yahoo.com
Company: Idaho Power

mailing_list_yes_no: yes

Comment_description: A high voltage Idaho Power transmission line was recently constructed along Lincoln road in Caldwell - similar to the transmission line proposed for Eagle. My view to the south is now cluttered with tall transmission towers which I suppose I'll eventually get used to. This line doesn't even serve anyone in the Caldwell area. I have little sympathy for the City of Eagle. Their residents will at least directly benefit from their proposed transmission line. If they want it run under ground, let the residents of Eagle pay for it. The rest of us have to live with the price of endless development, why should Eagle be an exception.

Transaction ID: 97727.7
Referred by: <http://www.puc.state.id.us/scripts/polyform.dll/ipuc>
User Address: 206.160.137.130
User Hostname: 206.160.137.130

✓ Letter Ack
sent 9/14/04

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Commms
i H

RECEIVED
FILED



2004 SEP 10 AM 11:04

JOHN GANNON

1104 Johnson St. • Boise, Id. 83705 September 9, 2004

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioners
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
472 W Washington
Boise, Idaho 83702

Re: Idaho Power v City of Eagle

Dear Commissioners:

I am commenting in regard to this matter as a longtime Idaho Power residential customer.

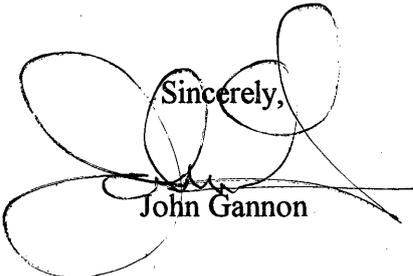
For as long as I remember we have had above ground transmission lines in many parts of the Central Bench. We have ugly above ground transmission towers lining Overland Road and Franklin Road. Many other neighborhoods and communities throughout Idaho have similar structures.

Longtime ratepayers should not have to pay for amenities, such as buried transmission lines, in new developments when we don't have them in established areas. If any area is going to get ratepayer subsidized underground transmission lines, then we should have them first because we have lived with them the longest.

The Eagle area wants growth and one problem with growth is electric transmission lines. Eagle is the only area that will benefit from underground transmission lines, so the only fair approach is for that City to pay the extra costs.

It isn't fair to raise others rates to pay for the City of Eagle's amenity.

Sincerely,


John Gannon

Man Acke sent 9/14/04 To RW. To Comm } K

00639

Thomas G. Dater, CLU

Business and Personal Insurance

One Capital Center, Suite 1010
999 Main Street, Drawer N
Boise, ID 83702
Bus. 208 343-4648 Fax 208 342-4136

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2004 SEP -7 PM 4:05

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

September 3, 2004

Idaho State Government
Public Utilities Commission
472 W. Washington St.
Boise, Idaho 83702

Dear Commissioner,

I live at 827 Riverside in Eagle, Idaho. The reason for this letter has to do with the proposed utility poles that Idaho Power wishes to place along the State Street bypass. These poles would be an unsightly nuisance and would potentially devalue the aesthetics of my property.

The question I raise to the commission is this. If developers are required to bury utilities, why shouldn't Idaho Power be held accountable to the same standard? I have no objections to power lines being run near my property. The issue is the unsightly view of the overhead towers. In my opinion all parties, utilities, individuals, and government should adhere to the same standard. As a result, it is my recommendation that the lines be buried.

Unfortunately I will be unable to attend the public hearing. I am requesting this letter be read into evidence as a part of my testimony.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. Dater, CLU

TGD:rmw

✓ Ben. Ack
sent 9/14/04

✓ To A.D.

✓ To Commus
; H

September 9, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

We are extremely opposed to the high voltage transmission lines that you are considering through downtown Eagle. There are many unknown health risks that we refuse to subject our family to. This is a mainly residential area, and I am home all day with my 3 little children. We are always careful to move where there are no high voltage lines.

You should absolutely run them either through a commercial area or underground, regardless of the cost. We will not subject our family to the possible health risks involved in this decision.

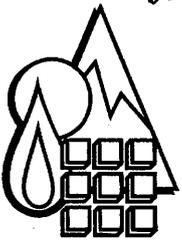
Sincerely,


Chad and Tyla Majors

358 N. Ever After Way

Eagle ID

✓ Gen. Acct sent 9/14/04 ✓ To AD. ✓ To Commus. 11



IDAHO
PUBLIC UTILITIES

Public Hearing

Case No. IPC-E-04-04
Sept. 09, 2004

COMMISSION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you want your opinion noted in the record. Please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

You may also post comments on our WebSite.

www.puc.state.id.us

click on "comments & questions."

Why should Eagle residents have to bear any cost when the main beneficiaries are HP and Star?

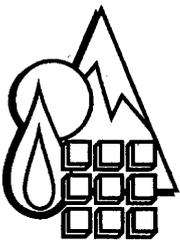
I was born and raised in Eagle and I am so proud of how attractive our central business district is and the addition of these tall poles will be detrimental.

Idaho Power should have planned for growth or testified against it in city public hearing. To put the onus on the residents of Eagle is unfair. Thanks for bringing the hearing to Eagle and letting us share our concerns.

Print Name SHARI SHARP Sign Name Shari Sharp

Address P.O. Box 38 Phone Number 939-0419

(127 S. Eagle Road) not mailing address



IDAHO
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Public Hearing

Case No. IPC-E-04-04

Sept. 09, 2004

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you want your opinion noted in the record. Please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

You may also post comments on our WebSite.

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click on "comments & questions."

I have many concerns about the impact of the 138KV lines in this community. Some points are as follows:

1. Aesthetics: Idaho is a beautiful state. The power lines are ~~not~~ detract from the beauty of this area.

2. Property value: as stated by many speakers, power lines negatively affect property value. This will be a burden on local property owners.

3. Regional benefits of these lines: this is a regional problem, shouldn't be paid for or costs of decreased property value borne by only Eagle resident.

4. Technical alternatives: Several suggestions were made for less intrusive solutions. Take advantage of new technology such as alternative wire that can be used on lower poles.

5. long-term planning: Planning ahead can solve many problems to minimize impact and costs. Share information with ^{public} ^{to improve} ^{the first time} Do it right. I feel it is time for policy shift to conserve quality of life for all Idaho citizens served by Idaho Power. This includes health, property value, environmental aesthetics and fiscally responsible ^{accountable} ^{issues}.

Print Name Colleen Crow Sign Name Colleen Crow

Address 4268 W. Kelsey Creek St Phone Number 208-938-4523

Eagle, ID 83616

One additional, utility-wide problem with the current policy (law) that permits cities to pay to bury lines is this: it penalizes poorer, less affluent communities that can't afford this expense. They will suffer further decrease in property value.

✓ Ben. Ack
sent 9/14/04

✓ To Adv.

✓ To Comm
: H

500 S Fitness Place, Eagle Idaho 83616

Studio C LLC.

September 9, 2004

Ada County Development Services

Dear **Michael Wilson**:

This letter is to notify you that Idaho Power's blatant attempt to bypass the local laws, ordinances and voices of concerned City officials, citizens and landowners that will be permanently affected by the negative neighborhood effects of a 138kV subtransmission line is simply ludicrous.

Hopefully you are aware that many public and not so public hearings have been held with regards to the same. The City of Eagle, city planners, council members, respected business owners and many, many concerned citizens have spoken. Both of the proposed plans have been unanimously rejected in public forum on several occasions.

Your office claims that the director must find that the proposal doesn't comply with all ordinance criteria and does not adversely affect surrounding properties this has already been substantiated.

Let us point out this is one chance to get it right. If these lines were ever installed they would be a public safety hazard and permanently reduce the value of surrounding property owners and citizens forever, period. If this is not the last attempt by Idaho Power to locate these lines within a safe distance from falling upon our children's educational facility we are prepared to organize the power of over one thousand local families to defeat the same.

The most obvious logical thing to me is that Idaho Power is violating their own claims of what their three top objectives are during their own presentation. The top objective they claim was to achieve the most direct route. One quick look at the map, back tracking the already existing route over one half a mile and back it violates not only this objective but also what they claim to be of second most importance the lowest costs. These longer overhead lines will prove to be much more cost prohibitive to maintain in the long run and as I already indicated the "negative neighborhood costs" to the surrounding properties and citizens will continue forever. They represented the third objective in importance was to minimize the affects on residences but doesn't that include our children.

Idaho Power also admitted that they have never considered taking the lines underground as many modern utility companies have already done throughout the United States and in many third world countries. When asked why? They responded that they don't have the expertise and equipment and would have to employ sub-contractors to perform the work. It's interesting to note that they already hire sub-contractors to install the overhead lines.

The voice of reason becomes just the voice of criticism without offering a chance at a solution and a compromise. **"What if"** the line was run underground straight South from the Eagle Sub-station to the Bypass (HWY 44) along the existing canal and easement less than 5000 ft. Then continued until it reached the West-side of Eagle road at which time it was brought up above ground to continue its most direct route to connect to the Star sub-station.

Respectfully submitted and deeply concerned,

Sincerely,

Markus and Carol Fipps

Studio C, LLC.

Wednesday
Sept 9, 2004

RECEIVED
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2004 SEP 10 PM 7:23
IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Gene Farnest,

I am enclosing an article from the Idaho Statesman. I have marked a few sections that I hope you will read.

First of all the Bypass is part of Idaho 44 or what we called since we were children highway 44. From the day that we the Tax payers of Eagle authorized and helped pay for the Bypass, we considered the Bypass to be part of the same highway system linking State Street & Highway 44 just as before. This turned the rest of the old road into a two lane residential street called East and West State Streets with the dividing main Road as Eagle Road.

Now Lynne Sedlock is trying to call the Bypass part of the highway "the Idaho 44 commercial corridor." She told a lie in that article and the sad part is that she knows what she said was a lie.

(2)

If the advisory committee recommended
renaming over head lines down 2 doko 44
it would go down the By Pass and there
would be no objection.

The Problem is that they are trying to
claim our street (West State Street) and
call it also 2 doko 44 and you cant have
it both ways. They have tried to have
it both ways, by verbally changing the
name of our street at their will, the
reality is the street signs state "west
State St. The Post office recognizes our
residential street as West State Street. The
City Council doesn't however because
they are trying to deceive everyone, into
believing something that is not true
for their own private reasons.

They (The City officials) do not have
a legal reason to prevent 2 doko Power
from putting their poles and lines back
on the By Pass from Edgewood and continuing
to Star. That is a public highway and
is not the property of the City of Eagle.
It is part of the public highway system
payed for by the tax payers

The City of Eagle, tried to deceive 2 doko
Power, by lying about the identity of our

Residential Street (West State Street) when we found out what they had done we filed a petition with the Eagle Planning & Zoning Commission, refusing to allow Idaho Power to put new Poles (with high density lines) on our residential street we also informed the County Planning & Zoning Commission what the City Council & Mayor was pulling on Idaho Power at that time. I also informed P.U.C.

now we have found that, the city council wants to have Idaho Power put under ground wiring through our private property. And then want us to pay the bill.

We are still paying for the new Poles and lines that Idaho Power installed two years ago.

We want those Poles & lines put on the By Pass period. We are not going to allow any underground wiring going through our properties on the west side of West State Street and all the private property owners will take whatever action that the law will allow to prevent our property from being torn up, excavated & vandalized by anyone.

(4)

for any purpose. all of the existing power Poles along West State Street are on privately owned property, not one Pole is on public easement.

We also know that the City Council members have a private ~~obsession~~ obsession in which they intend to use Idaho Power, as an instrument to use to install cender ground wiring through our properties on the West side of West State Street.

From our point of view, the bottom line is that we collectively object to any more electrical lines or Poles on West State period, above or cender ground. They are not necessary, nor will we allow our properties to be damaged in any way by anyone.

Sincerely
Linda Fuller

Michelle Van De Kest
owners of the Property
located at 826 W. State St.
Boyle, Idaho
83616

Power lines

From page 1

to get lines paid for by Idaho Power under an order of the commission," said PUC spokesman Gene Fadness.

Fadness said the commission has sided with Idaho Power in past similar cases.

"It has not been the commission's practice to require customers who live outside the affected territory to pay for the considerably higher cost for burying power lines," he said. "We have had a case before us involving the

Ketchum area. In that case, the commission did not order all of Idaho Power's customers to pay for underground power lines."

City officials contend that putting up huge, overhead transmission lines along the Idaho 44 commercial corridor would be unsightly and could devalue property. So the city prefers the more expensive option of having the lines buried along a portion of West State Street, said Councilwoman Lynne Sedlacek.

"We felt the bypass view shouldn't be obstructed by the large poles that run along State into Boise," Sedlacek said. "It was

just a very difficult decision. We felt we couldn't make it without further input from the citizens of Eagle."

A list of potential routes was winnowed down and a citizens advisory committee ultimately recommended running overhead lines down Idaho 44.

But on Aug. 24, Eagle rejected a final proposal from Idaho Power, forcing the company to ask the PUC to decide the matter.

"The city didn't have the money, and we didn't feel like an assessment would be equitable to all the citizens," Sedlacek said. "We felt it was better to take our

chances with the PUC. Go to a public hearing and let them know the concerns of the citizens of Eagle."

The PUC is holding a public hearing at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Eagle Public Library. A technical hearing for the city and Idaho Power is scheduled earlier that day at the commission's offices.

"At this point, we would just like a resolution so we can move on," Alenskis said.

To offer story ideas or comments, contact reporter Kathleen Kreller at kkreller@idahostatesman.com or 377-6418.

✓ No address

✓ To Comm - 5/14

**** Shortcomings ****

Proposed Aerial 138 KV High-Tension Power Line Project from Eagle to Star

The public has not yet been given an official environmental impact study document for general public, business and governmental input, analysis and approval. For this high impact project in a very aesthetically beautiful and environmentally sensitive urban corridor, a full Environmental Impact Study and Statement (EIS) is in order, should be required, and should become a standard procedure for all similar power line proposals throughout the State of Idaho, particularly in scenic, populated and developing growth areas.

The study document should *clearly establish project need and detail in depth all currently available alternative technologies used in the utility industry in urban areas throughout the United States today.* The document *should include all alternative horizontal and vertical alignment locations, impact analyses of each individual alternative including social, economic, technological and environmental impacts, provide accurate comparable cost estimates, and link those costs to the project need in order to determine true cost responsibility and accountability to the citizenry.*

The State of Idaho, County of Ada, and the Cities of Eagle and Star all have a public responsibility on behalf of their constituents to (1) request and require a clear and proper environmental study process and (2) a fully prepared study document to be reviewed, responded to, and approved at all levels of local, state and federal government including the Idaho state environmental agency and the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

The study document would be the official public basis for requiring Idaho Power Company to properly remedy effected citizens' concerns and at Idaho Power expense. Since Idaho Power is the applicant, Idaho Power should rightly pay for the approved study, the design and the construction. After all, this proposed project is a major capital investment by a privately owned company with stockholders having exclusive ownership in their own financial interest. The applicant here will not only build the project, but will fully own, maintain and operate the completed project in its own financial interest.

It is granted that Idaho Power has been given an exclusive monopoly in this region. However, in return, it is the responsibility of Idaho Power to finance, develop and manage its own regional electric power system. In this instance, the need for the project is primarily due to rapid growth in the City of Star and the need for a backup emergency electrical supply to the Joplin Power Station which serves the Hewlett-Packard facility along Chinden Boulevard also outside the City of Eagle.

The above needs are obviously of a regional system-wide nature and have little or nothing to do with electric power supply needs attributable solely to the City of Eagle. Due to this fact, all construction costs should be borne by Hewlett Packard and the City of Star or distributed evenly to all regional system consumers through rate increases.

It should also be noted that the proposed project has already been financed in part by the general public through the publicly owned highway right-of-way to be utilized by Idaho Power as proposed in the project. Therefore, just as transportation needs are financed on a statewide budgeting basis, it is entirely rational and fitting that regional utility systems including this one should be financed on a regional basis.

Additional Shortcomings

Idaho Power Project from Eagle to Star

- **Environmental Impact Statement is needed** in order to enable proper due process, orderly and fully open public input, governmental oversight, review and approval.
- **This dilemma is Idaho Power's problem to resolve** technically, financially and politically in the public interest because Idaho Power is the applicant. **The City of Eagle is not the reason for this proposed project and should not have to develop the proper solution.** The responsibility rests on Idaho Power to do whatever is necessary to meet City of Eagle requirements including existing City of Eagle building height restrictions.
- **Failure of Idaho Power to provide accurate and comprehensive cost accounting estimates** for the proposal and the other alternatives. This is needed to enable good analysis and decision-making by local governments and the general public.
- **This is a privately-owned capital investment project to serve interests other than those of the City of Eagle.** In particular, Hewlett-Packard, the City of Star and Idaho Power are the real stake holders desiring and benefiting from the proposed project and should shoulder any financial burden instead of the City of Eagle.
- It appears that Idaho Power has not been willing to work cooperatively and in good faith to arrive at mutually acceptable solutions with the City of Eagle and its constituents. Idaho Power has not been timely and forthcoming with meaningful and comprehensive data analysis of alternatives and real impacts, detailed project costing methodology and estimates of alternatives, and long-term systems planning documents and information pertinent to establishing project need and cost responsibility. *It looks to be "business as usual" in a new and modern urban environment where open public participation and opinion is valued more than a "bully pulpit".*
- **Negative Safety, Aesthetic and Economic Environmental Consequences are sufficient to prohibit any aerial power lines from being constructed in Eagle or along Highway 44 all the way to Star. To prevent unnecessary and hazardous lateral traffic obstructions, no poles should be installed nearer than 30 feet from the ultimate build-out edge of pavement of State Street in Eagle or Highway 44 to Star. The placement of aerial high-tension power lines in populated business, recreational and residential areas has long been known to generate health problems and most urban jurisdictions do not allow such projects to be built aerially. It is obvious that the visual aesthetic damage to the valley in this picturesque corridor would be permanent causing diminished enjoyment by citizens and tourists. It is quite apparent, given these and other negative environmental impacts, that commercial and residential land use values will be unjustly diminished and the desire of potential businesses and employers to locate in the Eagle corridor will be impacted.**
- The above brief commentary pretty clearly explains why Idaho Power has not managed this project proposal in a very open and cooperative manner. It is also clear that Idaho Power has not been willing to acknowledge and accept that **the State of Idaho has come to a new crossroads between higher standards for public infrastructure, meaningful public input, active local governments with responsible land use planning, and an old dilapidated way of doing "business as usual" at the regional utility level.**
- **Vote NO Against Aerial Solutions to the Idaho Power Dilemma!!**