

September 3, 2007

Mr. Kirk Robinson
Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office –DKC-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, Oregon 97293-4428

Re: Rebuild Libby (FEC) to Troy Section – Transmission Line Comments

Dear Mr. Robinson,

Thank you for all your hard work in managing a project such as this and maintaining an eloquent and professional position throughout the process.

I wish to take a few moments (because that's all I can spare) to briefly comment on the draft EIS and hold my option open for potentially detailed involvement as I gain understanding of this large document.

From what I see on the page preceding the Table of Contents, the Proposed Action and the Kootenai River realignment option are BPA's preferred alternative. Because I believe what that means is the Pipe Creek and Quartz Creek alternatives will not likely be constructed and because the Pipe Creek alternative is the only alternative that directly affects me I will limit my involvement until I learn otherwise. This certainly does not mean I do not have an interest in the other sites but instead that I have only had the time to research the site near and on my property and feel as though I cannot speak responsibly about the other sites.

As far as critiquing the draft EIS goes I have just a few short comments.

I did not see the detail I expected about sedimentation and water quality and potential impacts as they specifically relate to the proposed stream adjacent road and R/W construction, vegetation removal, loss of root strength from larger older trees, steep slopes above the proposed construction and rain on snow for the Pipe Creek alternative.

I did see more specific detail about the Bald Eagle and other sensitive species that was helpful.

Little or no emphasis was given to the visual impacts on the Pipe Creek alternative relative to the corridor itself. This to me is a bigger issue than the structures and lines.

The corridors would be coming and going from my prospective, not only visible from my home and camping sites, but from the north or east including the other potential home sites including the top of the ridge to the east. To me these corridors would be devastating.

Information about T&E species, old growth, tribal consultation, alternative comparisons, mitigation measures, maps, pictures and overall organization of the draft EIS seemed to provide the proposal back ground needed.

My closing comment for you is this, Kirk, if your intention is truly to avoid the environmentally sensitive Pipe Creek re-alignment option, my faith in you, BPA, the process utilizing all the dedicated field and managerial professionals, and your statement about minimizing environmental impacts and demonstrating regional accountability, then in my opinion when this proposal becomes a reality it will be a win for us all.

Thank you,

Rich Young
Libby Property Owner

Ps. This is an answer to prayer.