

Comments in regards to the proposed Libby to Troy section of BPA's Transmission Line:

1. It seems odd that a federal agency, with the resources and personnel at BPA's disposal (having spent a billion dollars in the past four years), would omit informing an entire neighborhood of their plans for a power line upgrade for many months. It borders on an omission of design that an entire neighborhood was not invited, to preliminary meetings to hear from BPA, throughout the entire summer. I resent hearing how this proposed upgraded line might impact my property from a survey crew, a distraught neighbor, etc.

2. It seemed out of character for a representative of BPA to quote "odds" as to which upgrade option BPA would pursue (as occurred when we were finally invited to a meeting on September 12th). Even more telling was the additional cost estimate voiced at said meeting (from 500K to 1 Million). Wouldn't an unbiased EIS determine what, if any, options BPA would have at their disposal? When an unbiased entity to determine the legitimacy of an EIS process is lacking, isn't it logical to pursue what avenues might be available to assure a fair process? Wouldn't it be logical to assume that cost would be a heavily weighed variable in the selection of route?

3. I resent being characterized as "frenzied" due to the possible "assumptions" of route choice on my (or my fellow neighbor's part as recently portrayed in the press). Any alleged "misunderstandings" have resulted from "errors" of omission and unreliable information from BPA personnel.

I believe what I see, BPA personnel. What I witnessed last summer were survey crews alongside the existing transmission route. What I received in the mail was a request to enter my property for survey purposes. In the information that was sent to me, BPA has stated that an expanded right-of-way along the existing route is one of four options. I do not consider myself frenzied as a result of the obvious.

For the aforementioned reasons, the credibility of some BPA personnel seems suspect at best. The cavalier omission of an entire neighborhood (that will be severely impacted by BPA's route choice) has not been conducive to fruitful dialog. I do not understand the imperious mind-set of a federal agency in regards to those that might be severely impacted.

Without direct involvement of our representatives at a federal level my faith that the EIS process will be untainted is nil. This same sentiment (in regards to unbiased EIS process oversight) was confirmed by your Montana liaison, Ms. Gayle Kunzt, in a conversation in Bozeman, MT as we attended the Energy Symposium.

Respectfully submitted,