

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION  
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RE: COMMENTS RELATING TO NEW BPA LINE

GENTLEMEN,

I OWN A HOME LOCATED AT 5608 KOOTENAI RIVER ROAD IN THE BIG HORN TERRACE AREA. THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY WOULD HAVE IMMEDIATE AND DETROMENTAL AFFECT ON MY PROPERTY. MY CONCERNS AND COMMENTS ARE FIVEFOLD AND ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE EMF STUDIES THAT I HAVE LOOKED AT SEEM TO BE INCONCLUSIVE, WITH CHILDREN PLAYING AND PEOPLE LIVING SO CLOSE TO THE LINE I THINK IT TO BE WISE NOT TO TAKE THE CHANCE AND MOVE THE LINE NORTH ON THE PROPOSED ROUTE.
2. THE SAFETY OF THE LINE ITSELF IS A CONCERN. TWO YEARS AGO WE HAD A LINE BREAK IN MY BACK YARD STARTING A FIRE. THE FORREST SERVICE RESPONDED QUICKLY BUT WAS UNABLE TO IMMEDIATLY EXTINGUISH THE BLAZE BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STATUS OF POWER IN THE LINE. IT TOOK APPROX. 30 MINUTES TO FIND OUT IF THE LINE WAS DEAD. THANKFULLY WE HAD NO WIND AND ONLY MINOR DAMAGED WAS CAUSED. I'M ENCLOSING PICTURES OF THE DOWNED LINE AND FIRE.
3. THE RIGHTS OF MY NEIGHBORS AND FELLOW LAND HOLDERS NEED TO BE CONSIDERED. THE LINE THAT EXISTS WAS PUT IN AT A TIME WHEN THERE WERE NO HOUSES IN THE AREA, SINCE THAT TIME PEOPLE HAVE CONSTRUCTED DWELLINGS, BUILDINGS, SHED ETC. WITH NO COMPLAINT OR PROBLEM WITH THE PAST OWNERS PP&L AND FLATHEAD ELECTRIC. ITS SEEMS UNFAIR TO CHANGE THE RULES AND STATUS JUST BECAUSE OF A NEW OWNER.
4. THE HOUSE THAT I LIVE IN IS NOT JUST A ROOF OVER MY HEAD. THIS IS THE LARGEST INVESTMENT I HAVE, IT'S NOT ONLY PART OF MY CHILDS INHERITANCE IT'S A GOOD SHARE OF MY FUTURE RETIREMENT. MAJORS CHANGES IN MY PROPERTY WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT DEVALUATION OF MY INVESTMENT.
5. THE LAST COMMENT I HAVE IS DOING THE RIGHT THING. I DON'T BELEIVE IT IS MORALLY OR ETHICALLY RIGHT TO UPROOT PROPERTY OWNERS WHEN THERE'S AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE THAT COULD BE TAKEN.

IN CLOSING, I CAN UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR UPDATING THE CURRENT LINE TO MAKE IT SAFER MORE EFFCEINT AND SUPPLY THE FUTURE NEEDS OF AREA. BUT IT NEEDS TO GO AROUND US AND NOT THROUGH US.

THANK YOU  
  
ROBERT PIVAL