

BPA Capital Planning Review

June 8, 2006

BPA Public Affairs  
DKC-7  
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Portland, Oregon 97293-4428

**Public Comment -Capital Planning Review:**

The sooner BPA returns to a single combined agency, the better. In my opinion under the present separate situation, "the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing"!

The crucial problem with BPA is with expanding the transmission system to meet future needs. It has been thirty years since the last major transmission system expansion. It is time to get with it.

BPA (and NW utilities) need changes in the following to accomplish this:

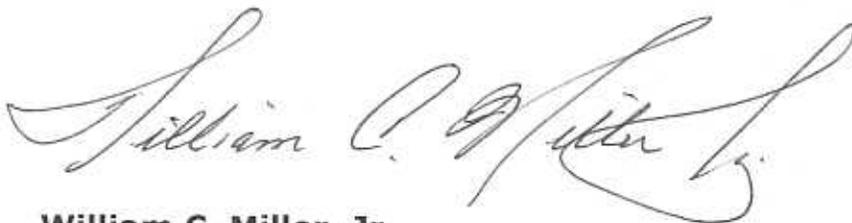
- a) New right-of-way needs to be acquired. Most of the existing r-o-w has been utilized to the extent that only the removal of existing line on existing r-o-w and replacing that line with a line of greater capacity remains an alternative.
- b) Environmental constraints need to be addressed as reasonable, affordable, and less time consuming. Projects delayed because of actions of a small minority with only the intent of harming the needs of the majority need be dismissed due to nuisance intent.
- c) Approval time, planning time, and permit time need to be shortened in the light of efficiency, costs and urgency. Material and Labor costs can significantly be reduced if the total project time from planning to completion is kept to a reasonable minimum. We have the resources to do this but are constantly thwarted by the existing processes including the "legal" system.

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- d) BPA and others must have an immediate and affordable source of capital to finance these projects. These projects are an important piece of a necessary infrastructure as well as "Homeland Security".

Without addressing the need and the process of expanding transmission systems, BPA & the US electrical and pipeline grids will never have the ability to provide the power & fuel needed to grow our economy and enable our citizens to prosper in this world and in this USA.

Furthermore, we have a "legal" system, not a "justice" system in the USA, whereby members of the legal profession are prospering while citizens are paying dearly for something less than justice or even mercy. America must rectify this fact if BPA and others are to effectively and efficiently solve the problems of this society. As Pogo would say, "we have met the enemy, and the enemy is us"!



William C. Miller, Jr.  
"Electric Bill" - American Citizen.