

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project Community Advisory Process Public Meetings Pilot Rock and Boardman Summary of Comments

Idaho Power is committed to partnering with communities from northeast Oregon to southwest Idaho to identify proposed and alternate routes for the proposed transmission line. Idaho Power initiated the Community Advisory Process to engage communities in siting the proposed transmission line.

In August 2009, Idaho Power hosted seven public meetings. The public meetings were held to give the public the opportunity to:

- Learn more about the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project.
- Review and provide input on criteria for evaluating routes for the proposed transmission line.
- Speak to Idaho Power representatives.

The public meetings in Pilot Rock, OR (August 19) and Boardman, OR (August 20) had an overall attendance of 106 people.

Attendees were given the opportunity to complete a comment sheet that asked the following questions:

- What are your concerns about siting the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line?
- What are your suggestions for siting the transmission line?
- Do you have comments on the regulatory and/or engineering criteria?
- Additional comments.

A total of 12 comment sheets were collected. A detailed meeting summary and transcription of all comments will be posted on the project webpage www.boardmantohemingway.com.

The following is an overview of the themes and opinions expressed by the public:

Concerns:

- Effects on the Boardman airport expansion plan
- Loss of state and county tax revenue in Boardman speedway excise tax district
- Siting may be politically and emotionally driven
- How will this project impact Conservation Reserve Program designated land?

Suggestions:

- Avoid conflicts with the Boardman airport expansion plan
- Use common sense and economics
- Use existing pipeline/power corridors when possible (For example, Dead Man Page Rest Area gas line, which heads toward Baker.)
- Preserve Oregon Trail history
- Site south of Boardman to avoid conflicts with Navy operations

Other comments:

There was only one comment in the “Other Comments” section.

- “We appreciate your straight forward and professional approach, especially the quality of your staff that we have met in the meetings.”