

The Boardman Hemingway Transmission Line Draft EIS

To Whom it May Concern:


I have served on the Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Council for eight years, am a member of Oregon California Trails Association and a descendent of Jesse Applegate, a pioneer of 1843. I have a deep, sustainable interest in the Oregon Trail and all that impacts it.

I have read the draft environment impact statement issued by BLM and have grave concerns about this report. It is beyond belief that BLM would even consider allowing 200 foot towers in the view shed of the picture windows at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretative Center at Flagstaff Hill. This is Oregon's premier spot for visitors to the Oregon Trail; it is the only site that many people will ever experience the historic Oregon Trail. Now you can stand and look out those windows and imagine that you are standing on the Oregon Trail. That whole experience will be lost when you look out on 200 foot towers. Once this site is compromised there is no recovery of the pristine experience that now exist. Please do not allow that to happen.

This project crosses the Oregon Trail eleven times! Once a section of the trail is compromised it does not regenerate; there is no turning the clock back. Birch Creek is a site that will be compromised and again it is a site that is visible to many visitors to Oregon, perhaps their one and only expose to the Oregon Trail. The Oregon Trail does define us as a state and all measures should be taken to protect it, not to destroy it. The statement that there are numerous places where the Oregon Trail can be experienced is simple not true to anyone but the most devoted of Oregon Trail fans, and even for those it is limited, not numerous.

Please do all in your power to protect this national treasure, not to destroy it.

Sincerely,



Leta Neiderheiser

279 Ridgefield Rd.

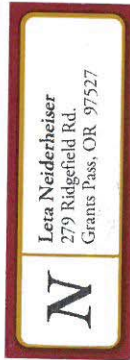
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