

September 29, 2016, PCN 1

In June 2015 Umatilla Electric Cooperative's representative, Mike Priest, contacted us with UEC's proposal which was to replace existing transmission poles on our property with larger & taller poles, adding 3 more transmission lines, and moving them 5 more feet onto our property. Mr. Priest later returned with an offer of \$900 and a contract wanting, which we understood to be, a total of 25 feet of easement along the west side of our property. We did not agree because he told us the neighbors on each side of us had 2 lots each and were getting \$500 per lot for a total of \$1000 each. However, we questioned this because our neighbors' 2 lots are much smaller than our 1 lot. They each have about 200 feet along the easement and we have about 700 feet along the easement. We questioned why UEC was paying per lot instead of linear feet. They just said that is how they decided to do it.

Through their subsequent visits we asked UEC to mark the placement of the new poles, mark the existing easement, & mark the end of the new easement line. The marks showed the new poles would actually be almost 10 feet more onto our property instead of 5 feet. They actually want a total of 25 feet easement from the new poles which they didn't make clear to us from the first. Mr. Priest brought Josh Lankford a couple of times to explain but we could not come to an agreement.

The existing easement already runs through a corner of our house and our concern is that the new easement will add almost 10 more feet through our house. The transmission lines will then be over a larger part of our house and we wonder about our safety.

We also contacted Umatilla County Assessor's office and they came and reviewed our property. They informed us that the lines will lower our property value though they won't know how much until the lines are moved.

In reading the contract we realized we are giving up control of a large amount of our property for a small amount of money, our property value will go down, we still have to pay the property taxes on the easement, maintain the property, and after we sign the contract we have no control over what UEC can do with our property in the future.

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