

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON
LC 68**

In the Matter of
IDAHO POWER COMPANY
2017 Integrated Resource Plan

Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation
Lindy Hatcher, Executive Director
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Great Falls, MT 59403

The Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) is a non-profit organization made up of 30 chapters across the country. We work closely with our federal partners including the United States Forest Service, National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management to protect the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and other trails in the National Trails System including the Oregon-California National Historic Trail.

We are writing in support of the position of the Oregon-California Trails Association (OCTA) which opposes the proposed Boardman-to-Hemingway (B2H) power line project. We join in that opposition. The power line has the potential for inflicting serious damage to the Oregon National Historic Trail.

We would like to draw your attention to Action Item #6 in the Integrated Resource Plan now being considered. Item #6 would allow preliminary construction activities to begin before either the Bureau of Land Management or the Oregon Energy Siting Council grants a notice to proceed. This would risk seriously damaging the Oregon National Historic Trail before any approval of final route or monitoring procedures.

We would like to make it clear that the LCTHF is not opposed to all linear power transmission facilities or projects. However, B2H does not meet the minimum level that would allow our support. B2H does not adequately protect national trails resources because it provides for multiple crossings of the Oregon National Historic Trail. This will have negative impacts on natural, cultural, historic, and scenic resources, among other things.

Thank you for your consideration in allowing us to address this issue.