

KNOLL Ellie * PUC

From: peter barry <petebarry99@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 12:04 PM
To: KNOLL Ellie * PUC
Subject: Fw: (UPDATED use this one)For the Record ... COMMENT re: Idaho Power IRP concerning B2H for 11/29/22

This is the updated version sent yesterday before meeting. Thanks --please replace first version with this one, thank you! Peter Barry

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: peter barry <petebarry99@yahoo.com>
To: PUC.PublicComments@puc.oregon.gov <puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 11:56:40 AM PST
Subject: (UPDATED use this one)For the Record ... COMMENT re: Idaho Power IRP concerning B2H for 11/29/22

Commissioners,

Absolutely do Not approve this scam of an IRP. --RFP should not be on the table. This IRP is inadequate at best, and in NO way provides solid evidence or proof that the B2H line is 'least cost/least risk' --- the standard by which you, and any commons sense person, must judge it.

Preposterous that Idaho Power Corp, by definition, a profit seeking out-of-state monopoly, has not updated its budget for this project and has not provided public disclosure of the true costs nor updated costs to build it. Of course, the costs, that are now completely unknown, would fall on the rate-payers backs-- the people you are tasked with protecting. How can you or the public make any kind of decision on this proposal when we do not have a truthful and complete budget in front of us. No person makes these kinds of decisions without these most basic facts. How absurd and disingenuous that Idaho Power Corporation is lying to you and the public that a transmission line would still cost the same as 5 or 10 years ago. Every single resource is now much more

expensive. Unethical corporations should not be trusted nor rewarded.

Pacific Power---supposedly a partner in this scheme --- has not been involved appropriately and you, nor the public, knows what their actual stance is vis a vis this application, nor the budget, nor the true 'need'. This puts us all in some kind of ridiculous guessing game as to how this inadequate IRP is really supposed to provide any real evidence of cost vs risk and any real benefits. Additionally, this corporation, owned by one of the richest men in the world, does not have rate-payers nor the environments best interests as a measure.

Least Cost-Least Risk options have not even been examined. We rate payers and land owners, etc, want real examination of local, resilient, modern, options which can provide low cost and low risk energy. Local solar, wind, water, etc grids and micro grids can provide energy we need that is resilient in the face of climate changes, cyber attacks, natural disasters and more. You have toured a few of the real-life projects that work and are much lower cost and lower risk, and that work. We all know there are viable options right now that are proven---and more efficient and lower cost options are being demonstrated every single year.

Look at any natural disaster, and look at the Ukraine war for evidence that local, resilient micro grids are much lower cost and certainly lower risk than large and vulnerable systems like long transmission lines. It is a fact that large transmission lines are highly vulnerable to being damaged and hacked. They have also been proven wild-fire starters that put forests and towns at risk. Not 'least risk'.

How can any sensible commission or even corporation think that a billions dollar + project that is 300 miles long and might last

decades, could ever be reasonably rated at a \$1 'risk'. Idaho Power Corporation has the audacity and hubris to make this proposal. Trustworthy?

Idaho Power Corporation has a terrible history as a corporation, and clearly does not have a public interests as a value, and is willing to make maximum profit on the back of rate payers and the sensitive environment we are all tasked to protect and pass on to the future generations. A few of their many travesties: fighting any efforts to provide fish passage over their dams as that would cut into profits. Proposing and fighting endlessly for another dam that would have put a concrete monolith across the deepest gorge in the USA and plug the last free-flowing stretch of the wild Snake River, to make a profit. People fought it valiantly and protected the river and the beauty and stopped this un-needed dam. They proposed a huge coal fired powered plant in the valley near Boise to make more money. This, in an area know for inversions and terrible air quality. The people fought this horrible application and protected the air they breathe and the cost of their electricity. This profit machine fought commons sense Solar Power in Idaho for decades as they saw it as a threat to their bottom line. In this current application for the B2H they have spewed forth tens of thousands of pages of deceptive applications at best, and out-right lies, commonly. They have coerced County and City officials in rural areas as well as land owners. The rate payers were forced to pay for a mandated two year, 2 million dollar scientific study to ascertain the least damaging route if a line was built ---and they ignored it entirely and contrived a terrible route before the study results were even released. Why?

Look at what the staff of the IPUC has come up with on this application. There are a litany of terrible consequences and no accurate or plausible answers to serious questions.

This horrible corporation, represented by its legion of 'nice' suit and tie attorneys, PR teams, and 'experts' (at deflecting and not answering), has no place in telling you nor the good people of Oregon when and how they will be pillaging our State and its fragile and wonderful nature and resources.

Demand the highest evidence and proof that this project would meet the high bar of 'Least Cost and Least Risk', as well as being the BEST option over the many modern and scientifically proven choices we now have.

This application is huge distraction for Oregon, its People and a massive risk to our future. It is an out-dated, poorly conceived, profit grab.

We all have work to do in addressing the greatest threat to people and the environment and our kids and grand kids futures, that we have ever faced. We can provide plenty of energy to our residents, and help solve the climate crisis starting now ---by discarding this bad idea and starting work on common sense, proven, modern solutions.

Thank you for protecting the rate payers and our grand-kids future,

Peter Barry
La Grande, Oregon