

**Treasure Valley Electrical Plan
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
January 25, 2006**

Committee Attendance:

- Dave Aspitarte
- Kevin Bayhouse
- Matt Beebe
- Susie Brocke
- Anna Canning
- Richard Cook
- Dave Dykstra
- James Grunke
- June Hues
- Ken Jantz
- Kathleen Lacey
- Commissioner Bryce Millar
- Stan Olson
- Paul Raymond
- Jayson Ronk
- Commissioner Fred Tilman
- Toni Tisdale
- John Tomkinson
- John Velikoff

Idaho Power Attendance:

- Layne Dodson
- Jared Ellsworth
- Margareta Ionescu
- Kent McCarthy
- Kristi Pardue
- Kip Sikes
- Bryan Wewers
- Mike Ybarguen

RBCI Attendance:

- Rosemary Curtin
- Jennifer Oxley

Meeting Objectives:

- Follow up DSM discussion
- Update the CAC process
- Present and discuss transmission briefing paper

Meeting Handouts:

- Agenda
- November meeting summary
- Transmission briefing paper
- Transmission PowerPoint presentation

Meeting Highlights:

- Kent McCarthy opened the meeting with a welcome
- The date of the next meeting was set for February 22, 2006 at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Meridian (same location as the January meeting)
- Rosemary informed the group the project team was planning to host four-hour workshops in March to complete a mapping exercise. There will likely be one workshop in the morning and one in the afternoon and committee members will attend the one that best fits their schedule. Dates have not been set, but will probably be either March 22 or March 29.
- Rosemary also reminded the group that the meeting summaries will become the record of the Community Advisory Committee's work and to let her or Kent know if they have any changes to the summaries
- Kent reviewed the November meeting summary of the Demand Side Management presentation and discussion and asked if there were any follow-up comments. Comments and questions included:
 - Working with city building departments may be an opportunity for education – perhaps Idaho Power could provide them with brochures
 - This could be helpful at the county level as well and could be incorporated into a checklist
 - Does Idaho Power communicate with schools and/or the media on a regular basis to keep them informed about DSM efforts?
 - Does Idaho Power review energy efficiency in existing buildings as well as new buildings?
 - Building contractors need to know more about energy efficiency and pass this information to their customers
- Kent presented a PowerPoint presentation about transmission that also included Idaho Power's future Treasure Valley Electrical Projections based on its population and demand projections. Comments and questions included:
 - Do these projections take planned communities into account?
- Kent showed a graphic of the types of transmission towers used by Idaho Power and how tall they are. The committee would like this graphic distributed as an 11x17 at its next meeting. Other comments and questions included:
 - Why does the height of transmission towers change depending on the voltage they carry?
 - Can transmission towers hold more than one line?
 - Can hub substations act as distribution substations?
 - Can lines be buried?
 - Can towers be located together?

- Does an individual who wants to generate his or her own power have to connect to Idaho Power the same way as normal customers? (Kent informed the group that if a person is using Idaho Power to back-up their generator, the cost of the connection is the same and they will receive a monthly bill for facility charges plus charges for any energy they use.)
- There was a discussion about putting transmission lines underground. Idaho Power does this at the request of a subdivision or community, but the customer must pay extra. Comments and questions included:
 - What percentage of distribution lines are underground?
 - How much time and money is involved with putting lines underground?
- Kent covered electrical reliability and explained the “n-1 criteria” to the group. Comments and questions included:
 - How did the 1996 Western U.S. power outage occur if reliability standards are in place?
 - Technology is improving reliability and relaying of electrical energy
 - There was a request for a copy of the n-1 criteria graphic to run on a personal computer
- Kent discussed right-of-way and how much was needed for different voltages of transmission lines. Comments and questions included:
 - What is the spacing distance between towers?
 - How does Idaho Power determine what type of right-of-way to use (private easement or road right-of-way)?
- Kent showed a graphic of current locations of source, hub and distribution substations, and possible future locations for new substations. This graphic assumed there was no new generation in the Treasure Valley.
- This led to the small group discussion which asked the following questions:
 - What are important issues to consider when locating transmission lines in the Treasure Valley (what are the most important)?
 - Where would you like to see transmission lines enter the Treasure Valley?
 - Explore the possible corridors that transmission lines could use to cross the Treasure Valley.
- Below is a summary of the comments recorded on flip chart notes:

What are important issues to consider when locating transmission lines in the Treasure Valley (what are the most important)?

 - Build transmission lines along or through undeveloped corridors or undevelopable ground where possible
 - Secure corridors early – sooner rather than later. Use a 10-year planning horizon, at

minimum.

- Locate transmission corridors with transportation corridors. Use established freeway and highway corridors.
- Utilize public lands where possible for 500 kV lines
- Utilize geography to minimize visibility. Do not construct large towers along ridgelines or buttes if possible.
- Co-op landscape and right-of-way with ACHD
- Consider the value of properties adjacent to transmission corridors. There is concern about impacts transmission lines would have on values of adjacent properties.
- Examine using the existing railroad and transmission corridors
- Propose building a joint-use bike and transmission corridor
- Make sure the proposed or approved corridors are included on planning maps or future land acquisition maps. Work towards clarity on local comprehensive committees and plans.
- Try to build transmission lines using the minimum right-of-way to lessen the impact and size of the ROW footprint
- Use public ROW – lower cost, lessens the footprint of the corridor and multiple uses for the corridor
- Build close to generation and final load
- Site corridors on the perimeter of the city away from existing developments, residential and commercial
- Participate in all corridor studies, not just major ones
- Replace or place power line friendly trees where possible
- Upgrade substation landscaping and screening
- Design transmission corridors in developing areas in a square shape (not diagonal). This will allow for usable land, such as soccer fields and farming.
- Choose commercial business areas over residential areas
- Keep in mind projected growth areas; stay outside if possible
- Avoid:
 - Residential areas
 - Schools
 - Any place visible from the Snake River, Lake Lowell or the Boise River, including waterways and river crossings
 - Ridgetops
 - High population areas

- Projected growth areas
- Gateways or entrances into cities
- Identifiers or significant features

Where would you like to see transmission lines enter the Treasure Valley?

- Northwest and southeast
- Along railroad corridor
- Kuna Mora Road
- Use exiting Brownlee/Oxbow corridor
- Follow existing PacificCorp with a new line
- Convert existing 230 kV line from Brownlee to 500kV
- From the north following Highway 16
- Use the Midpoint line for 500 kV

Explore the possible corridors that transmission lines could use to cross the Treasure Valley

- Existing corridors, including rail, bike, freeways and state highways
- The groups were also given maps that showed the Treasure Valley. They could draw on the maps to illustrate any of their discussion points.
 - One map showed a 500 kV “loop” that encircled the valley
 - The map also showed a potential site for future generation
 - 230 kV lines and upgrades were indicated on the map as well

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 22 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hampton Inn & Suites, 875 South Allen Street, Meridian, (off Eagle Road and I-84)