

**Treasure Valley Electrical Plan
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
November 30, 2005**

Committee Attendance:

- Dave Aspitarte
- Teri Bath
- Susie Brocke
- Anna Canning
- Council Member Elaine Clegg
- Richard Cook
- Dave Dykstra
- Kelli Fairless
- Commissioner John Franden
- James Grunke
- Kathleen Lacey
- Mike McGown
- Mayor Dean Obray
- Stan Olson
- Bruce Poe
- Paul Raymond
- Jason Ronk
- Matthew Stoll
- Commissioner Fred Tilman
- John Tomkinson
- Charles Trainor
- John Velikoff
- Donna West
- Chuck Winder

Idaho Power Attendance:

- Dave Angell
- Lynette Berriochoa
- Layne Dodson
- Jared Ellsworth
- Margareta Ionescu
- Kent McCarthy
- Darlene Nemnich
- Kristi Pardue
- Kip Sikes
- Bryan Wewers
- Mike Ybarguen
- Bradford Snow

RBCI Attendance:

- Rosemary Curtin
- Jennifer Oxley

Meeting Objectives:

- Learn about the Communities in Motion and Blueprint For Good Growth projects
- Continue discussion about the Treasure Valley's electrical infrastructure and discuss how reliability plays a role in future needs
- Learn about and discuss Idaho Power's Demand Side Management program

Meeting Handouts:

- Agenda
- October meeting summary
- DSM PowerPoint presentation
- Communities in Motion PowerPoint presentation (to come in January)

Meeting Highlights:

- Kent McCarthy opened the meeting with welcome and introductions
- The date of the next meeting was set for January 25, 2006.
- Kent showed several photos with examples of transmission lines of different styles and voltages.
- Charles Trainor, director of planning at the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, gave a PowerPoint presentation that provided an overview and of the Communities in Motion long-range transportation plan. Questions from the group included:
 - What was the source of the growth forecast?
 - Is COMPASS looking into alternative funding sources to pay for the improvements in the long-range transportation plan?
 - What are the next steps of the project?
 - How do you design roads for future capacity?
 - How sensitive is the model to the effects of more dense development?
- Copies of Charles' PowerPoint presentation will be available at the January meeting.
- Kip Sikes gave a presentation about reliability.
 - Reliability includes frequency (how often something happens) and duration (how long it lasts).
 - The Idaho Power system is extremely reliable.
 - Part of reliability is that an "alternate route" needs to be available if a line goes out, in order to keep electricity flowing. Capacity has to be available at peak times even if a line goes down. At the high voltage level (230 kV and above) if a single line goes out, the remaining lines must have enough spare capacity to carry the load the lost line was carrying.
 - When the group has an opportunity to site new transmission lines, one of the things it will have to discuss is whether to put new lines on a single corridor, which would affect that corridor and its residents heavily, or to spread them out which would affect more areas to a lesser degree.
- Questions about Kip's presentation included:
 - Is it helpful to consolidate substations?
 - If development doesn't occur as predicted, do we still need substations in those areas?
 - If there is more personal generation (such as solar), do the same infrastructure requirements exist?
- Darlene Nemnich gave a PowerPoint presentation about Demand Side Management (DSM), which are actions on the demand- or customer-side of the electric meter intended to change the configuration or magnitude of the load shape. Copies of the presentation were distributed to the group.
 - The three primary kinds of DSM are Demand Response, Energy Efficiency or Conservation, and Rate Mechanisms.
 - The DSM currently used by Idaho Power includes:

- Residential AC Cool Credit
 - Irrigation Peak Rewards
 - ENERGY STAR homes
 - Rebate Advantage
 - Energy House Calls
 - Weatherization Assistance for qualified customers
 - Building Efficiency for Commercial Construction
 - Industrial Efficiency Program
 - Irrigation Efficiency Rewards
- Idaho Power hopes to increase its DSM options in the future
- Questions and comments for Darlene included:
 - How do you build an ENERGY STAR home?
 - In transportation, you can manage demand by asking people to drive fewer days per week. This is easier than asking them to stop driving altogether. Can the same principle be applied to DSM?
 - Are there any programs for existing residents who don't live in manufactured homes?
 - Are there any low-interest loans for existing construction?
 - Does Idaho have a tax credit for energy efficient homes?
 - Would it be helpful if city building departments were part of this?
 - What agency is Oregon's Business Energy Tax Credit through?
 - If energy efficient buildings were less expensive to construct, more people would have them.
 - Following the DSM presentation, committee members formed discussion groups to talk about the following questions:
 1. Do you see any barriers that would prevent Idaho Power from achieving the expected DSM results shown in the presentation?
 2. What would it take to exceed these expected results?
 3. How could Idaho Power encourage community support of Demand Side Management?
 - Here are the comments offered by the groups. Repeated comments have been mentioned only once:
 1. Do you see any barriers that would prevent Idaho Power from achieving the expected DSM results shown in the presentation?
 - Lack of education – customers, clients, decision makers
 - Public acceptance
 - Inexpensive power
 - Competition with other energy suppliers
 - Tough to get code changes
 - Cost of DSM, ENERGY STAR appliances
 - Energy supply
 - Economics – cost benefit
 - Leadership – state and national
 - Stockholder value for company regulators
 - Lack of incentives

- Pay back, cost effectiveness
 - Lack of technology advances
 - Change of demographics
2. What would it take to exceed these expected results?
- Education – “Reduce Usage” pilot campaign for one day and one week and report findings
 - Regulatory changes – building codes, comp plan policies
 - Political support
 - Incentives to participate – speed up permitting, cash, low-interest loans
 - Aggressive partnerships – Conservation League, Building Contractors Assoc., United Water, other utilities
 - Work with city building departments to add energy efficient appliances on application checklist
 - More aggressive marketing
 - Ease EPA standards
 - Development pre-application meetings
 - Prioritize efforts
 - Programs for retrofit
 - Conservation that will complement dist. Generation
 - Rate changes
 - New technology
3. How could Idaho Power encourage community support of Demand Side Management?
- Incentives – cash rebates, rewards card
 - Expand conservation weatherization programs – low-interest loans, older home audits
 - Education of builders, Realtors, political leadership, state legislators, residents, businesses – provide information about comfort levels, cost savings, return on investment
 - Education should include energy saving measures – window shading, insulation, SEERS
 - Need change in social conscience
 - “Conservation Day”
 - Use power plant permitting process to dialogue with the public
 - Communicate through schools, media
 - Make it easy to participate
 - Work harder for long-term support
- **The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 25 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The location will be announced.**