

Public Meeting Summary

Meeting name: Bruneau Town Hall Meeting

Location: Bruneau, ID

Date: April 30, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Purpose and introduction: Idaho Power participated in a landowner meeting for the proposed Gateway West Transmission Line Project. The meeting was held in Bruneau, Idaho and landowners were invited by Frank Bachman, the meeting organizer.

Notification and attendance: Approximately 96 landowners and residents attended this town hall meeting as well as State Senator Bert Brackett, State Representative Stephen Hartgen, Tom Schwartz from U. S. Congressman Walt Minnick's Office and Owyhee County Commissioners Jerry Hoagland, George Hyer and Dick Freund.

Format: Attendees were greeted at a sign-in table and encouraged to take informational materials and complete comment forms. Handouts available included the general project and field work/cultural resources fact sheets, project FAQs and electromagnetic field (EMF) materials. Attendees were encouraged to view the large wall maps and parcel ownership maps for Segment 9, which included proposed and alternate routes. The presentation included:

- Welcome and introductions: Frank Bachman, area landowner and meeting organizer
- Birds of Prey National Conservation Area (NCA) and the Gateway West Transmission Line Project: John Sullivan, Bureau of Land Management
- Purpose and need/National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process: Kristi Pardue, Idaho Power
- Routing process/draft environmental impact statement (EIS) process: Doug Dockter, Idaho Power

Key questions and themes:

- It does not seem like landowners were effectively involved in routing the line. How do we go back now and provide useful input on the line route? *The project is considering a number of alternative routes proposed by other communities and we welcome your suggestions on alternates as well.*
- What is the actual impact to me if the line passes close to my house? *Our goal is to route the line in areas of least impact, but we don't know where it will end up at this time. We are making every effort to route the line away from homes and existing structures.*
- Why can't the line go through Birds of Prey? *The existing resource plan for Birds of Prey aims to protect existing conditions. It remains to be seen if the plan can be changed.*
- Attendees agreed, led by Frank Bachman, to move forward as an organized group in developing a potential alternate route.