

Public Meeting Summary

Meeting name: Power County Town Hall Meeting

Location: American Falls, Idaho

Date: July 21, 2009

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Purpose and introduction: Idaho Power hosted a public meeting in American Falls, Idaho to update attendees on project progress, answer questions, collect comments and document concerns.

Notification and attendance: Approximately 407 landowners and residents along the two-mile study corridors within Power County were notified by mail and invited to attend. Approximately 65-75 people attended, including Vicki Meadows and Ken Estep, Power County Commissioners.

Format: Project staff were available at a sign-in table and encouraged attendees to take informational materials and complete comment forms. Project staff also provided general information about the project, answered questions and helped identify specific parcels on landowner maps. Presentations included:

- Welcome and introductions: Vicki Meadows, Power County Commissioner and Doug Balfour, Power County Attorney
- Project overview: Todd Adams and Kristi Pardue, Idaho Power
- Routing overview: Walt Vering, TetraTech

Key questions and themes:

- Some power lines are close together. Why can't we build ours close together? *The lines you are referring to were likely built before current regulations. Now the minimum distance between the lines that Idaho Power would build is 1,500 feet. This ensures that if one or more towers fall (and most of the towers are separated by approximately 1,500 feet), it will not take the other line out.*
- How does the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) influence routing work? *WECC does many studies and models to see what would happen if certain lines went out. In order to get the megawatt rating from WECC that Idaho Power needs, we must comply with their guidelines. Idaho Power seeks a 3,000 megawatt rating.*
- I heard you need to expand the Borah Substation. How much bigger will it be? *It will be about 40 acres larger, built on land already owned by Idaho Power.*
- Can you just pass Borah substation and go somewhere else? *No, we have done studies and looked at other places and Borah was determined as the best option.*
- From what I understand, 76 percent of the line's capacity will belong to Rocky Mountain Power and only 24 percent will belong to Idaho Power. This just doesn't seem like a good investment for Idaho. *This is the ownership percentage as of now, but this may change in the future.*