Bureau of Land Management Attn: Mike Nelson 2370 S. 2300 W. Salt Lake City, UT 84119

RE: Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Line Project

Mr. Nelson,

Thank you for BLM's attention to this important project and your willingness to listen to our concerns and proposals. We also appreciate Rocky Mountain Power's facilitating dialog to resolve our differences. However, these meetings have not yet resulted in agreement with RMP's proposals. After considerable discussion and research by the Tooele Valley community, we come to the BLM expressing our concerns and common proposals to minimize the impact of this transmission line project. This letter represents the united efforts and consensus of governments and citizens from Tooele and Grantsville Cities as well as Tooele County for the unincorporated areas of Tooele Valley.

Therefore we present our proposals to the BLM along with our reasons and justification to garner your support:

 We generally concur with RMP's proposed route between Mona and Terminal. However we propose transmission lines near Grantsville be limited in number and located as far west as possible.

This proposal avoids residents of Grantsville to the greatest extent.

2) We propose the site of the Limber Substation be relocated to northern Tooele Valley near I-80.

This reduces the impact to Grantsville to only one 500 kv line between Mona and Limber.

This proposal accommodates a better interconnection to the 500 kv grid serving the western United States. Although not a part of RMP's currently planned project, it is obvious that the Limber substation will connect to other 500 kv substations (such as the White Pine substation in eastern Nevada, or Midpoint, Cedar Hill or Populus substations in southern Idaho). Without this additional connection, Limber becomes the only 500 kv node for all of northern Utah and would be located on a dead end line. Furthermore, the western U.S. 500 kv grid has very little north-south interconnectivity inland from the west coast making a northern leg from Limber important to the grid itself. Energy corridors already exist that run along I-80 west out of Tooele Valley to accomplish this interconnection. With Limber located near I-80, connection to future 500 kv lines becomes convenient and of minimal impact.

This proposal improves the 345 kv grid serving northern Utah. The Limber to Terminal line is shortened by 12 to 17 miles having been replaced by the more efficient 500 kv line. Shorter lines between 345 kv substations result in lower impact and in higher transmission efficiency and reliability.

This proposal has a positive effect on the 138 ky grid serving Tooele County. U.S. Magnesium and ATI industrial operations at Rowley consume approximately as much power as the Tooele Valley. The existing Terminal to Rowley 138 ky line passes along I-80 through Tooele Valley and past our proposed Limber location. When connected to Limber, this line becomes a much shorter, more dependable and efficient Limber to Rowley run. It also creates a 138 ky connection between Terminal and Limber available to serve Tooele Valley WITHOUT ANY NEW LINE CONSTRUCTION. At minimal cost, service to Tooele Valley can be doubled in reliability and tripled in capacity.

This proposal simplifies power distribution within Tooele Valley. With a more central location, distribution lines from Limber to points within Tooele Valley are shorter and do not accumulate as they would to get around the Army Depot and Grantsville City in route from RMP's proposed site.

3) We propose the Limber to Oquirrh transmission line be routed to minimize impact to Tooele Valley's residents. This proposal concurs with Tooele City Mayor, Tooele City Council and The Citizens Committee of Tooele as well as the Tooele County Commission who are opposed to RMP's proposed routes through or south or east of Tooele City and have been designated by the same officials and citizens as unacceptable having the greatest amount of negative impact on the greatest amount of citizens. We propose these routes be eliminated for those reasons and because they are no longer practical considering a northern location for the Limber substation.

We have discussed these and other proposals with RMP. We believe RMP has overstated the costs, risks and difficulties associated with them. Existing transmission lines, substations and a 300 ft tall cell tower in northern Tooele and Skull Valleys demonstrate soil suitability. Our arguments here before the BLM are just as valid before the Public Service Commission. We call for a fair evaluation of the proposals by the BLM and a fair distribution of cost between RMP shareholders and customers.

We look forward to a formal meeting with the BLM to discuss our united Tooele Valley proposals at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

**Tooele County Commissioners** 

Colleen S. Johnson

-Lerry Aurot
Jerry Hurst

J. Bruce Clegg

Patrick Dunlavy,
Tooele City Mayor

Steve Pruden,

Tooele City Council Chairman

Byron Anderson

Grantsville City Mayor

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Brad Pratt

Kaye Prati

Tooele City Concerned Citizen's Group

James Vera

Glen Terry

Grantsville City Concerned Citizen's Group Representatives

cc: Rocky Mountain Power

cc: Utah Public Service Commission

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Tooele City Mayor

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Tooele City Council Chairman

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