

Attn: Rocky Mountain Power

To whom it may concern,

My name is Darin T. Smith. I live at 1373 East Cassity Drive, Tooele, Utah. I am writing you in opposition to your proposed southeast bench route for what for me is the most significant reason of all. My daughter Vivian Ann Smith was born on August 8, 2002. She was born with a severe case of congenital mitral valve stenosis. This required a valve replacement and consequently a permanent pacemaker for the complete heart block that occurred. Her pacemaker is vital for her existence. Medtronic is the manufacturer of the pacemaker and provides each patient with a list of recommendations. On page 76 of her patient manual it clearly states that electromagnetic interference of transmission lines will interfere with the function of her pacemaker. I am not offering my opinion, this is factual and potentially deadly for my daughter. To complicate matters for you, I live in the most south east part of the bench. I am literally the closest person in that route to your proposed lines. I know that you understand that there is not a jury in the world that would let you off if anything were to happen to Vivian because of the transmission lines. Need I say more? This is a situation that you will not win. I have numerous other concerns that are in direct opposition to your southeast bench route. Deforestation will be unacceptable in and of itself coupled with the fact that your herbicidal program to keep down plant growth will poison our water shed. Increased fire risk has already become a reality with a recent fire that occurred up settlement canyon. The fire required use of settlement reservoir water by helicopter to be put out. If your route were to cross over the reservoir, as you've proposed, then access to that water would be compromised. Are you honestly going to first put us at increased risk of fire (as stated in your own material) by first constructing this eyesore and then interfere with how we can put it out? As if destroying the beauty of our mountain wasn't enough, we are all giving you very legitimate reasons to NOT utilize this route. My major source of recreation is snowshoeing and hiking precisely where you plan to put your lines. As I climb the mountain weekly I drink from the two springs that flow unmolested from the ground. I shutter to think of the irreparable damage you will undoubtedly cause to our water source and the permanent damage to our mountain wildlife habitat. You must seek alternative routes that already follow utility corridors. I-80 provides access around the mountain and allows for easy access for maintenance. Even crossing the mountain range through Mercur would make perfect sense because of the access roads and complete void of interference with any population. You must reconsider and understand that there is more than just money at stake here. You are directly affecting our health, way of life, beautiful wildlife habitat, our water shed, fire safety and most importantly my family. I regret the very idea that you can ignore our entire city, county and other local leaders to selfishly pursue this route. If you wish to proceed, it will be a deplorable decision that we will continue to fight until you come to your senses that you've made an enormous mistake in ignoring us the way you have.

Sincerely,

Darin T. Smith