

**Public Service Commission - Tooele High 'T' and Utah Power lines**

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**To:** "psccal@utah.gov" <psccal@utah.gov>  
**Date:** 5/5/2010 3:20 PM  
**Subject:** Tooele High 'T' and Utah Power lines  
**CC:** Kaye Pratt [REDACTED]

UTAH PUBLIC  
 SERVICE COMMISSION

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To whom it may concern,

*Wednesday, May 5, 2010*

I would like to express my concern about the high power lines that have been proposed to go on the east bench in Tooele. As a long time resident of Tooele, the beauty of the east bench is something I cherish. I was born in Tooele 57 years ago and have lived here all my life. I graduated from THS and have been a teacher, coach, counselor, athletic director and senior class advisor for the past 34 years at Tooele High. I could have retired, but love my work here and plan to stay longer.

As a person who loves tradition, I collect buffaloes( our school mascot) and anything with a 'T' on it. In 1969, I helped put the cement on the mountain that makes up OUR school 'T'. Since that time, I have made many, many trips to the 'T' to either repair, whitewash or light flares to signify the importance of the 'T' to me and my high school. I still remember my graduation and how our senior class sat on the 'T' before we graduated. We all sang our school song and many shed a tear because of the importance our school was to us. The cement 'T' on the mountain is a big part of that importance.

In the 1916 yearbook I have in my office, there is a sentence on page 13. It reads, ***"Our great undertaking, that of building a block T on a mountain east of Tooele, was accomplished, and our next move is to again whitewash it."*** They were cherishing the 'T' on the mountain almost 100 years ago! My grandmother, Edith Tate, is in a picture on that page. Another letter I have somewhere in my old yearbooks referred to the beauty of the majestic mountains and the wonderful 'T' on the mountain. That came from a yearbook from the 1920's.

Therefore, I am just trying to let you and your company know that the importance of the 'T' on the east mountains goes way back and still holds dear memories to those who either still live in Tooele or come back to visit on occasions such as class reunions; birthdays, Christmas and funerals. It is always a topic of discussion wherever I go.

Which means that if the proposed high power lines happen to grace the east bench of Tooele, it would distract for all the beauty we have been fortunate to view over nearly 100 years. Don't take that away from all those who have come before us and for those who will continue to follow us as they graduate from Tooele High School in the future.

There are many other reasons why those power lines SHOULDN'T be placed along the east bench, but I am just giving you my strong opposition because of the importance the 'T' holds dear to hundreds and hundreds of Tooele High School alumni and the many more that will follow in the years to come.

Thank you for taking the time to read through my concerns. I hope you realize the impact this decision has for so many people.

Richard C. Valdez, CAA  
 Counselor/Athletic Director

Tooele High School

