

To: Utility Facility Review Board

May 10, 2010

From: Ross Hudson, Tooele, Utah Resident

Re: Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Line Docket Number 10-035-39

I am a resident of Tooele, Utah and an employee with the Division of Public Utilities for the State of Utah! My statement in this Memorandum to the Utility Facility Review Board reflects my opinions as a resident of the City and County of Tooele, Utah. I am not making any statement in or on behalf of the Division of Public Utilities.

I have read with interest the many stories about the Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) Transmission Lines coming through Tooele and would be remiss if I did not say that I have also read much of the information that has come through the Division of Public Utilities. Information that was also available to the public. Through my reading and study of the many maps and other information afforded me I have formed a positive opinion about this new RMP Transmission Line.

There have been many negative statements by several citizens, Tooele City Councilmen & Tooele County Commissioners about negative health, welfare and livelihoods of the people of Tooele County But when I read through all of the articles and legal statements made, I for the life of me could find no proof or information as to how the new Transmission line will impact the health, welfare or livelihood of anyone in Tooele County.

There hasn't been any specific information given that shows just how and in what manner this transmission line will negatively impact anyone. I have heard it said that the new lines would be a hazard? Now if they are talking about Electric and Magnetic fields, I have found that there is no factual evidence that EMF's cause cancer or any other sickness or disease. Besides, the new lines will be at such a distance away from people that it mitigates any supposed negative effects from or by any EMFs. As an example, if there were any negative effects from EMFs, the people who built their homes right under the high power lines on Skyline Drive in Tooele City would all have cancer by now and I haven't heard of anyone dropping dead from EMFs from that area of Tooele.

According to one of the points made by Tooele City and Planning & Zoning (P&Z) is that they are concerned about the carcinogens they feel will be used by RMP around the new power poles. I think we should look first at the area we live in. We have the Ammunition Depot with a lot of high explosive material stored. Then there is Dugway where a lot of poisonous gases are stored. We also have Energy Solutions that stores radioactive material. Just how many carcinogens do you think RMP will use compared to what will happen if there is an accident at one of those places? Besides, most of the homes in Tooele County, I'm sure, use plenty of the same carcinogens just taking care of their yards and property. So in reality the carcinogen issue should really be moot!

Why is it that Tooele County, Tooele City & Planning & Zoning need a step by step procedure of what they deem needs to be mitigated? Do they really think PacifiCorp is not concerned for these same issues and will do all in their power so that these issues don't become a concern to Tooele's citizens! Has Tooele Et al not read where RMP has had to deal with the same concerns in other cities and towns that RMP has put other Transmission Lines through?

There are many miles of transmission lines run by RMP where many of the same issues that Tooele has come up with but those issues were mitigated and everyone involved is satisfied with the way those issues were taken care of. One city, Willard, Utah had 31 issues and they were all mitigated by RMP. Now comes Tooele County who told Rocky Mountain Power if they could mitigate their issues they would issue the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) but when RMP said they could & would mitigate those issues Tooele County might as well have called RMP liar's when they told RMP they still would not issue the CUP. "SHAME ON TOOEELE COUNTY"! To me they have shown the citizens of Tooele City, and County just how much integrity they have when it comes to giving their word.

Tooele County & City have not and did not prove that their issues would not be mitigated. RMP has ample proof with past transmission line construction that all issues would be mitigated! I have to ask the Tooele City Mayor, Councilmen and County Commissioners what their real motives are. Is it really for the best interests of the citizens? Is it for their "view", or maybe it's the votes they could lose from those who don't want this power line to go through and who have lobbied them to stop it.

The Tooele County Commissioners, Tooele City Council, P&Z and the so called concerned citizens groups know full well there is no other viable route that the Transmissions lines can go through that meet the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and the Utah Public Service Commission Report and Order dated June 18, 1992. Below are excerpts from that order:

"The Commission will require PacifiCorp to pursue the least cost alternative for the provision of energy services to its present and future ratepayers that is consistent with safe and reliable service, the fiscal requirements of a financially healthy utility, and the long-run public interest. The Commission believes that the IRP Standards and Guidelines describe a process that will help utilities accomplish this goal.

The Commission established Docket number 90-2035-01, "In the Matter of the Analysis of a Least-Cost Power Plan for PacifiCorp," on Feb. 21, 1990.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the standards and guidelines for integrated resource planning for PacifiCorp, Utah jurisdiction, be adopted.

PacifiCorp has no other viable route that can be used and stay within the order of the Commission and this order has never been rescinded.

I believe Tooele County & City is being selfish and mean spirited in their decision making about issuance of a CUP to RMP. The powers that be and the complainers seem to be more worried for self interest reasons and not for the good of the whole. Just what is it that RMP has done that they don't trust RMP's word? They asked for mitigation on issues and when PacifiCorp gave them their word they just as much said "we don't believe you", or is it you were just worried about losing votes if you gave in to RMP just even a little bit?

I for one am not willing to pay higher taxes or rates for this project. For RMP to take a different route just to satisfy the aesthetic view of a few would be like stealing for their aggrandizement. But talking about views, when I look up on the hillside southeast of Tooele, I see homes built

up there which aesthetically ruins my view. I would rather see the nice lush green mountains rather than the homes of which people built roads into and cause all the carcinogens to flow downhill that they use on their property. Many of those who live up there complain about the view RMP will change when all they need do is look out their front door and see a nice view of Stansbury Island and power lines and homes in between. So why should we other citizens who are not opposed to the PacifiCorp line route, have to pay anything extra because of a few disgruntled people who won't like the view out their back door? What makes their view more important than mine or anyone else's?

Since Tooele County or the P&Z have not proposed a viable route that meets the IRP and do not have the funds or expertise to find one, why are they denying the CUP? Are they saying that the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management and the Utah Governors Public Lands Coordination Office are wrong? Please show me how or where?

What Tooele County proposes by not giving the CUP is an affront to the State of Utah and especially to the people of Tooele County. The County Officers shirk their responsibility in not issuing the CUP.

With all of the evidence shown and given, Tooele County has been derelict in their duty to perform their required responsibility, and as for their beliefs that what they are doing is in the best interests of the citizens of Tooele County is contrary to the best interests of the public at large.

All of the other routes proposed by citizens groups and others were analyzed by PacifiCorp & BLM and were rejected because of environmental issues, constructability, reliability, safety, impact on the construction schedule and cost. What other clues do Tooele County and City need that where the proposed route is going is the best route? As PacifiCorp said, "There is no competent evidence to contradict the vast amount of data the Company put before Tooele County and City." In essence what the County and City are saying is that the IRP & Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is wrong and that the BLM, Dept. of the Interior & the Governors Public Lands Coordination Office are wrong! After all of the evidence showing the proposed route is the only viable way to go, Tooele powers are saying they are wrong! Would you please tell me or show me just how that is so and give me the evidence that will be within the IRP & EIS guidelines. There is no time to do another study. Those required to do the studies have already done so. Another study would only have the same outcome, the same results and would be wasting the time of the Utility Facility Review Board, Tooele City, Tooele County and the State of Utah.

Therefore I submit, as a citizen of Tooele, Utah that RMP be allowed to run their Transmission Line through the proposed route that they have formally requested they be allowed to do.

Ross Hudson
Tooele, Utah Resident