

Public Service Commission - RMP proposal

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To whom it may concern:

As a resident of Tooele, I feel it is important to voice my opinion regarding the RMP proposed power line project. As someone who grew up in rural western Oregon I feel I have a deep respect for the environment. At the same time, I understand that certain infrastructure is needed to support communities. Power lines must be laid, roads must be built, water lines have to be run, etc. I feel that whenever possible, infrastructure should take a back seat to the environment. That is, we should plan infrastructure in the least invasive way possible so that environment as a whole is preserved. We don't have to sacrifice the environment as a whole for infrastructure! We must preserve the beauty of the environment as much as possible. After all, one cannot truly be happy where they live if the environment in which they live is ruined. As I have learned about the proposed RMP Tooele project as laid out on the RMP website, I have come to realize that this project does not fully consider the environmental impact it will have on Tooele County. Based on the proposed project, it is clear that the plan was designed around creating the cheapest route possible for supplying power through Tooele County. While this makes complete business sense, it makes no environmental sense at all. The power lines would run through some of Tooele County's most pristine areas. As I am originally from Oregon, I have had a hard time adjusting to the Utah's environment. It doesn't have the "greenery" that western Oregon has. With that said, the one location I have felt the most at home over the last five years I have been in Utah is in the mountains. There you find northern Utah's true beauty. Why would you ruin that? The RMP proposed lines would ruin some of Tooele County's most beautiful landscape, all for the purpose of saving RMP money. Sure you may say that cost is passed on to the consumer in the end, but I don't believe that is the case here otherwise why would they object to other less invasive proposals presented by concerned Tooele County residents? There aren't any competing power companies in the area – so the only driving force must be to save themselves money at the cost of destroying our environment in Tooele County. We must find an amenable, less invasive solution to running power lines through Tooele County then is currently proposed by RMP. The additional cost, whether passed on to the consumer or not, is more than worth the environmental impact the current proposal will have on Tooele County.

Josh Perry



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