

WEST-WIDE ENERGY CORRIDOR)
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL)
IMPACT STATEMENT.)

ORIGINAL

PUBLIC HEARING - AFTERNOON SESSION

Heard at the Elkhorn Conference Room
Holiday Inn Downtown
22 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana
October 27, 2005
2:00 p.m.

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BE IT REMEMBERED, that the proceedings in the above-captioned matter was heard at the Elkhorn Conference Room, Holiday Inn Downtown, 22 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, Montana, on the 27th day of October, 2005, beginning at the hour of 2:00 p.m., pursuant to the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure, before Laurie Crutcher, Registered Professional Reporter, Notary Public.

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1 most likely have some written comments to send in
2 before the deadline.

3 MR. POWERS: Bob Marks from Jefferson
4 Local Development Company.

5 MR. MARKS: I'd like to postpone.

6 MR. POWERS: Those were the only three
7 folks that had signed up to provide any formal
8 testimony. Is there anybody else that would like
9 to at this point? Come on up, and state your
10 name, and who you're representing, please. **MT04**

11 MS. DOGGETT: Thank you. My name is
12 Jamie Doggett. I'm a Commissioner from Meagher
13 County, which is the county just to the east of us
14 here. And I also wish to extend my thanks to you
15 for giving us the opportunity to participate in
16 this process. And I apologize to the woman is
17 going to be trying to type out all of these
18 numbers I'm going to give you in a second.

19 I think a good outcome for us, I would
20 like to propose a corridor that wasn't listed
21 previously. I would like to see, and my
22 constituents, to have the 100 KV transmission line
23 from Rainbow Dam, which is near Great Falls, to
24 Harlowton upgraded to a 230 KV from Two Dot to
25 Loweth -- which is a former Milwaukee Railroad

1 substation -- from Two Dot to Loweth, transmission
2 line upgraded to a 230 KV; a 230 to 500 KV
3 substation constructed near the existing Loweth
4 substation, and interconnected to it; and
5 restructuring an upgraded 230 KV line from Loweth
6 to Three Forks along the right-of-way where the
7 old, now burned, 100 KV line used to run.

8 All of the transmission suggested would
9 be built within existing right-of-ways. Also the
10 Western Area Power Administration is constructing
11 a 230 KV substation at Rainbow Dam, and a 230 KV
12 transmission line along the highline that would
13 terminate at Rainbow.

14 My proposal would create an integrated
15 230 to 500 KV system along the northern, central,
16 and southern portions of Montana. It could be
17 done without opening any new corridors, and my
18 suggested plan ties into existing plans that the
19 Northwest Area Power Administration and others
20 have for transmission expansion.

21 Most of this power is generated, or
22 primarily a lot of this power comes from wind
23 generation. There is a new wind generation plant
24 just established between Lewistown and Harlowton,
25 Judith Gap, and there are other transmission or

1 power station wind generation stations being
2 developed within Meagher County.

3 As the lady from Anaconda/Deer Lodge
4 said, we are from counties that desperately need
5 economic help, but we also have I think something
6 that we are able to give. It would be a great
7 opportunity for us to finally put that wind to
8 use. Thank you for your time.

9 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Is there going to be
10 an opportunity for just questions?

11 MR. POWERS: Yes, there is, as soon as
12 we finish with the formal presentation. Is there
13 anybody else that wanted to speak? **MT05**

14 MR. MARKS: My name is Bob Marks. I'm
15 representing myself, and also Jefferson Local
16 Development Corporation. I wasn't quite sure what
17 I would expect here, and I thought we'd get more
18 of a presentation than we have so far, so we could
19 comment on that. The gentleman from Northwestern
20 Energy gave us an indication of what their plans
21 were, but there wasn't any definition as to
22 whether those power lines or corridors would be
23 operated by Northwestern Energy or by others.

24 We've had an experience in southwest
25 Montana, and also western Montana, twenty some