

## **Notes from BPA meeting with Shoshone-Bannock Tribal council regarding the proposed Caribou Transmission Project (06-07-06)**

Attendees: Nancy Eschief-Murillo – Vice Chair  
Wesley Edmo – Council Member  
Aldene Pevo – Council Member  
Marlene Skunkcap – Council Member  
Glenn Fisher – Council Member  
Chad Colter – Tribal Fish & Wildlife Manager  
Claude Broncho – Tribal Fish & Wildlife  
Carolyn Boyer-smith – Tribal Cultural Resources Manager  
Mark Korsness – BPA Project Manager  
Laura Williams – BPA Public Affairs  
Randy Ridenhour – BPA Tribal Affairs

BPA Project Manager, Mark Korsness, began the meeting by thanking the Tribal council for the meeting, and describing the proposed project and the need for the additional transmission facilities. Council member Wesley Edmo asked if the real reason for the project was to improve mining leases that would require more power to support the mines. He went on to say that the mines have destroyed much of the treaty rights areas and life in the streams has been harmed. He was very concerned about potential sale of power to serve mines and possible expansion of mines.

Vice Chair, Nancy Eschief-Murillo noted that the current proposed route cuts across treaty affected lands through the Forest Service lands (3 miles). They have hunting and gathering off-reservation treaty rights on those lands and would like to see no impacts. She went on to say that the Tribe needs to consider the social and cultural impacts of the proposed route and their Tribal policy, Federal laws, and their treaty rights. She suggested that someone should perform a cultural resources analysis to inform and influence the Environmental Assessment.

Council member, Glenn Fisher said he was concerned with the impacts to migratory paths for raptors, as well as elk and deer. He was also concerned about the spread of noxious weeds along access roads that may be on Forest Service lands.

They ask why we seemed to be giving preference to the state of Idaho lands just north of the proposed route (not wanting to propose the path across those lands), and not giving equal preference to the Forest Service lands where they have hunting and gathering rights.

They asked that we provide information on BPA transmission capacity and the cost of the proposed substation and line for the next consultation meeting. They asked that BPA continue to work with technical staff, and thanked us for getting them involved early in the project. The Tribe also said we should also work with Yvette Tuell, their environmental manager.

They provided us with a Tribal information booklet and their policy document for management of Snake River Basin resources.