

To: Comments@efsec.wa.gov

From: sunengser@gmail.com

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Subject: High Voltage under Columbia river project from Dalles to Portland

Has attachment? False

External Email

As I understand it there is currently a high voltage DC overhead transmission line from BPA to California already. That heads toward the coast of Oregon before heading to California. Currently the BPA is not selling as much excess power to California since they have started their renewable solar and wind power push with battery storage. My question is have we looked at the possibility of using that line rather than trashing our beloved Columbia river when we are already stressing the fish and wildlife around and in that watershed. Seems to me we could do less environmental damage by extending that DC power line that is under utilized for California to north to Portland?

I am a retired solar engineer (jump started 2 made in WA solar panel companies) and believe in using renewables as much as possible to mitigate climate change while minimizing the negative impacts of their implementation as possible. I would prefer a strong policy for decentralizing that power to where it is needed, saving the impact of high voltage transmission. In example, every roof (especially industrial areas with large roofs) and parking lots should be covered with solar panels before we put in large scale solar fields and wind turbines or more hydro dams. Renewable, ie solar, energy is particularly suited for a more distributed power source than large scale projects. Put energy sources nearer to the energy demand and reduce the huge need to build out major high voltage transmission lines!

We have the technology and resources for WA state to lead the nation/world to do this at a fraction of the cost in dollars and environmental damage that building this transmission line under the Columbia river would cause. Do not get me started on the Pushpum pumped storage that is being fast tracked on Indian land!

Bill

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Attachments:

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