



## Idaho Public Utilities Commission

PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074

Brad Little, Governor

Paul Kjellander, Commissioner

Kristine Raper, Commissioner

Eric Anderson, Commissioner

Case No. IPC-E-20-25

Order No. 34721

Contact: Adam Rush

Office: (208) 334-0339

adam.rush@puc.idaho.gov

Telephonic public hearing will be held Aug. 4 on application to transfer land to Owyhee County

**BOISE (July 31, 2020)** – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission will hold a public telephonic hearing on Tuesday, Aug. 4, at 2:00 p.m. to take comments on an application from Idaho Power to transfer a 1.91-acre parcel of land to Owyhee County.

In 2008, Idaho Power purchased 150 acres of land near Melba that would later become the site of the Hemingway Substation in Owyhee County. The company built a new, unpaved access road on a portion of the 150 acres to provide access from Highway 78 to the substation. Idaho Power's access road travels parallel to and partly crosses the Wilson Cemetery Road. Since the access road was built, visitors to the Wilson Cemetery and adjacent property owners have been using Idaho Power's road rather than the Wilson Cemetery Road. The Wilson Cemetery Road is now overgrown and impassable.

In July of 2019, Owyhee County denied a building permit for one resident along the south side of Wilson Cemetery Road because the resident could not prove public access was available to their property. Owyhee County would not grant a waiver or variance upon request. To re-establish legal access for landowners south of Wilson Cemetery Road, Idaho Power executed and recorded a deed conveying the parcel to Owyhee County subject to an easement reserving access for Idaho Power.

Idaho Power must obtain approval from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission before it sells or transfers ownership of any property in Idaho used in the generation, transmission or distribution of electricity in Idaho.

Those interested in testifying during the hearing or listening to it should call 1-800-920-7487, and enter passcode 6674832# when prompted. In order to identify callers and manage the hearing efficiently, anyone interested in testifying is encouraged to contact Adam Rush at adam.rush@puc.idaho.gov or at 1-208-334-0339 and provide their name and the telephone number they will be calling in on. If those planning to testify could do this by no later than 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 4, it would be appreciated. Those who plan to listen to the hearing without testifying do not need to provide their phone number.

For additional information on the application from Idaho Power to transfer the land, please visit:  
<https://puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/6517>.