



Jackie Thompson <jackmclr21@gmail.com>

Colorado's Xcel Power Pathway 1041

5 messages

Jackie Thompson <jackmclr21@gmail.com>
To: kariparsons@elpasoco.com

Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 4:04 PM

This correspondence is to express my opposition to the Segment 5 – Tundra Harvest Mile high powered transmission line as proposed by Xcel Energy. Besides the unappealing esthetic, there are many valid reasons to move the route to a less populated area further east.

According to an article from the National Assoc of Realtors dated Aug 18, 2018, high power lines devalue property up to 45%. If these lines ran on my neighbors property, I would receive no compensation for that devaluation.

The transmission line also requires a clearing of 150 ft. All trees and structures will need to be cleared. There are multiple stands of old cottonwood trees and multiple watering holes where numerous pronghorn, deer and coyote gather. There are numerous hawk and owl nests. I am also concerned they will use herbicides to clear the right of way and as a way to keep it clear.

I asked a regenerative grazing facebook group I belong to if any of them were affected by high powered transmission lines. Most of these answers came from farms that encompassed hundreds of acres. Some of the negative impacts were:

- Induction. We have a high power transmission line through us, and amazed at how much leaks through induction. I haven't been game to hook my energiser up to the top of the lane 30m from the centre line. We have a 345 tower line running through one of our farms and the fence is hot from it and on a foggy morning or heavy mist you'll get shocked touching the pickup truck. It's a continuous power not pulsing like an energiser. I put little lights on my lines so I can look out and see the powers on at night. Energisers pulse the lights, big line is continuous via induction. More in high air moisture.

-Spoiled Hay. Have high power lines running through our farms from the nuclear plant 40mi away. We discovered that wrapped hay under a high powered line does not ferment properly (hay spoils), so something is going on with anaerobic bacteria at least. Probably because the high moisture environment is more electrically conductive.

-Chemical Spraying. The only problem I have with the power lines is the company hiring morons to spray a mix of 2 different all kills on the easement.

I and many other landowners especially in the pristine Bijou Basin in Elbert County request the lines be routed further east where landowners hold hundreds of acres and homes are miles apart. Much of that land is treeless and flat. They may gladly welcome the additional compensation for the right of way.

Audubon Magazine published an article dated July 29, 2021 "Bird Safety a Concern in National Push to Build More Power Lines". According to the article, "electrical wires are a significant threat to birds; by one widely cited estimate, between 8 million and 57 million birds die each year in the United States by colliding with them". Eastern El Paso county is in the migratory flight of the sand hill crane. There are many hawks, eagles and owls just to name a few. A transmission line through Iowa, Wisconsin is being legally challenged –"Their legal challenges don't merely concern this one power line, the groups say—they're about setting a precedent to ensure that the nation doesn't sacrifice wildlife and public natural areas as it embarks on a monumental expansion of its transmission network."

Back in 2002, Xcel Energy proposed high powered lines on this same route and faced stiff opposition. 95 percent of the landowners along the corridor opposed the routes. Xcel was forced to look for new routes. Why consider this same route again?

Again, we oppose the Tundra-Harvest high powered transmission lines proposed route.

Jackie and Tim Thompson

Ramah, CO

Kari Parsons <kariparsons@elpasoco.com>
To: Jackie Thompson <jackmclr21@gmail.com>

Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 4:14 PM

Thank You for your correspondence, this will be placed in the EDARP file and attached to the staff report.



Kari Parsons
Principal Planner
E.P.C. Planning & Community Development
719.520.6306 719.373.8562
<https://planningdevelopment.elpasoco.com/>

To review all El Paso County projects in **EDARP** go to: <https://epcdevplanreview.com/>

From: Jackie Thompson <jackmclr21@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 4:04 PM
To: Kari Parsons <kariparsons@elpasoco.com>
Subject: Colorado's Xcel Power Pathway 1041

You don't often get email from jackmclr21@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)