Idaho Power Company

Midas Gold DEIS Draft Comments

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| Section | Page | Comment |
| ES 3.0 | ES-2, ES-3 | Idaho Power has reviewed the DEIS and noticed some technical inconsistencies between sections and would like to make sure they are factually accurate throughout the document. These inconsistencies could be resolved by reaching out to IPC technical staff for assistance. Some examples include (but are not limited to):   * Section ES 3.0 Connected Actions. First bullet omits the new substation on Johnson Creek. * Figure ES1-1 omits the existing substation in Scott Valley and incorrectly shows an existing substation between Warm Lake and Johnson Creek. |
| Figure 2.3-1 | 2-15 | The proposed Groomed OSV (over snow vehicle) Route north of Warm Lake is on Cabin Creek Road. Idaho Power’s transmission line also roughly follows Cabin Creek Road until Cabin Creek Road connects to Johnson Creek Road. Idaho Power would like to express concern with a snowmobile trail being in close proximity to a power line and its associated poles, downguys, and anchors. IPC proposes mitigation in the design and construction phases to minimize any potential hazards at site specific locations. Examples of mitigations could include (but are not limited to): 1. Utilizing guy poles (head guys) to move downguys/anchors away from OSV route, 2. High visibility plastic covers for downguys that would extend well above snow line, 3. Some form of reflective tape to put on poles and downguys, 4. If guy pole solution is not effective at removing hazard at a specific location, potentially utilize foundations instead of downguys and anchors. |
| Appendix D | D-5, FS-46  FS-51 | The use of fill material is not anticipated as part of the Transmission Line Project. The construction of the transmission line would result in localized soil disturbance, compaction, and vegetation removal primarily around structure locations and along service roads. Soils (including topsoil) removed during transmission line structure hole excavation; and service road improvements and construction would be retained, temporarily stockpiled at the structure locations and along road-cuts, and used to backfill around the structures and to construct water bars along roads. All remaining soil not needed for backfilling would be spread on the work area and used for onsite restoration activities to promote regrowth from the native seed bank.  Topsoil segregation is not a typical practice during transmission line construction and is not anticipated as a part of this project.  The Transmission Line Project will comply with EPA construction stormwater regulations and a SWPPP will be prepared and implemented in compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements to minimize impact from erosion and sediment migration. |