

From: [Kevin Murphy](#)
To: [Washoe311](#)
Cc: [Evans, Timothy](#)
Subject: Email Comment for meeting 5/7/24 -WSUP-23-0032 (NV Energy) Notice of Public Hearing
Date: Sunday, May 5, 2024 9:46:07 AM

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

County Commissioners & Mr. Evans -

We are property owners located at 95 Waterbuck Way, Verdi NV. APN 038-710-08. Our property, safety and views are impacted by this project.

- 1) Verdi, NV is the only town for this project with the power grid/lines/system going directly through the middle of the community. Verdi is the most impacted. Greatest weight should be given to Verdi voices for the consideration of permit approval.
- 2) The public hearing packet has extremely low quality PDF for showing the transmission line corridor through Verdi, NV. In addition, the packet does not show individual poles to be replaced and what (if any) change in heights. At least that I could find. In order to fully inform the public, I find it imperative that Washoe County Planning and our Commissioners provide very detailed map specifications to the Verdi public so as to be more clearly informed.
- 3) The opportunity to underground power from the California State line through Verdi, NV for appx. 3-5 miles is clearly possible and should not be missed given future growth of the Verdi area within Washoe County and for the future commercial growth of the old Hwy 40 corridor. As such, NV Energy has a duty and obligation to determine a formal cost benefit analysis for under-grounding this 3-5 miles section through our community for this project.
- 4) It is stated in the Board packet, that the cost to underground is appx. 7x to 10x more expensive and would impact rate structures. This ball park figure is clearly a guess, and does not consider an underground project for a very short distance within the total span. It seems to us that NV Energy and the Washoe County Commissioners have not give this option a serious consideration. It should be.
- 5) Verdi Elementary is a well recognized and award winning school in the State of Nevada. The greatest need in our community is the protection and education of our youth. An underground project close to this school insures neurological safety for children. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3700989/> is a study from the National Library of Medicine where impacts were noted, however, with some inconclusive results. It's the wisest choice for our Commissioners that if you make a decision, it is best to error on the behalf "Safety First" for our children.
- 6) There is clearly above ground fire danger which has been stated before, and which must be used to seriously consider under-grounding a short distance.

As a result, my wife and I are requesting:

“That the Commissioners in Washoe County defer the decision on WSUP-23-0032, so as to provide better mapping and specification details to the public and to obtain a serious and formal proposal for a short distance under-grounding project. It is with this intent that a deferral will allow for additional study and consideration to reduce fire hazard, protect the children of Verdi elementary to the maximum extent possible, and to improve the current and future aesthetics of Verdi, NV.”

Thank you for your consideration.

My Very Best,

Kevin C. Murphy, 95 Waterbuck Way, Verdi NV

Retired - NV County Fish & Wildlife Commissioner

Retired - Chairman (3x) Truckee Donner Recreation and Parks District (to NV state line)

From: [Planning Counter](#)
To: [Eans, Timothy](#)
Cc: [Washoe311; Lloyd, Trevor](#)
Subject: FW: Public comment NV Energy Power lines
Date: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:43:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)

Hi Tim,

See below public comment on your case.



Courtney Weiche
Senior Planner, Planning & Building Division | Community Services Department
cweiche@washoecounty.gov | Direct Line: 775.328.3608
Planning Division: 775.328.6100 | Planning@washoecounty.gov
Visit us first online: www.washoecounty.gov/csd



Have some kudos to share about a Community Services Department employee or experience?
[Submit a Nomination](#)

From: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 11:29 AM
To: Planning Counter <Planning@washoecounty.gov>
Subject: FW: Public comment NV Energy Power lines

Greetings,

Below please find the public comment submitted to Washoe311. Let us know if we can provide additional information.

Thank you,



Washoe311 Service Center
Communications Division | Office of the County Manager
washoe311@washoecounty.gov | Office: 3-1-1 | 775.328.2003 | Fax: 775.328.2491
1001 E. Ninth St., Bldg A, Reno, NV 89512



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From: Ryan Curren <currenpro@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 9:16 AM
To: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.gov>
Subject: Public comment NV Energy Power lines

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Greetings Wahoe County Planning Commission,

I would like to submit this public comment on the NV Energy proposal to install new over head power lines in Verdi.

Installing new overhead power lines in Verdi rather than burying them poses several disadvantages. Firstly, Verdi is known for its high wind risks, which can increase the likelihood of power outages and pose a significant danger to nearby homes. Overhead lines are more susceptible to damage from strong winds, falling trees, or other natural disasters, potentially leading to prolonged periods without electricity and heightened safety concerns for residents.

Secondly, overhead power lines can be visually unappealing and detract from the scenic beauty of the area. Verdi is renowned for its natural landscapes and picturesque surroundings, and the presence of unsightly overhead wires could diminish the aesthetic appeal of the community, affecting property values and overall quality of life for residents.

Additionally, while burying power lines may initially require a higher upfront investment, the long-term cost benefits outweigh the initial expense. Underground lines are less susceptible to weather-related damage, require less maintenance over time, and have a longer lifespan compared to overhead lines. Furthermore, buried power lines are safer, more reliable, and less prone to causing interruptions during adverse weather conditions, ultimately saving both money and resources in the long run.

In conclusion, opting for overhead power lines in Verdi instead of burying them poses significant risks to both property and safety, diminishes the visual appeal of the area, and overlooks the long-term cost benefits of underground installation. Therefore, it is advisable for NV Energy to prioritize the burial of power lines to ensure the resilience, safety, and aesthetic integrity of the Verdi community.

Thank you for your time,
Ryan Curren
Verdi Resident

From: [Planning Counter](#)
To: [Evens, Timothy](#)
Cc: [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Roman, Brandon](#); [Washoe311](#)
Subject: FW: A new Service Request has been created [Request ID #160615] (Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment) - Washoe County, NV
Date: Monday, May 6, 2024 4:04:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)

Hi Tim,

See below, additional public comment for your item.



Courtney Weiche
Senior Planner, Planning & Building Division | Community Services Department
cweiche@washoecounty.gov | Direct Line: 775.328.3608
Planning Division: 775.328.6100 | Planning@washoecounty.gov
Visit us first online: www.washoecounty.gov/csd
[?](#) [?](#) [?](#) [?](#)
Have some kudos to share about a Community Services Department employee or experience?
[Submit a Nomination](#)

From: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 4:01 PM
To: Planning Counter <Planning@washoecounty.gov>
Subject: FW: A new Service Request has been created [Request ID #160615] (Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment) - Washoe County, NV

Greetings,

Below please find the public comment submitted to Washoe311. Let us know if we can provide additional information.

Thank you,



Washoe311 Service Center
Communications Division | Office of the County Manager
washoe311@washoecounty.gov | Office: 3-1-1 | 775.328.2003 | Fax: 775.328.2491
1001 E. Ninth St., Bldg A, Reno, NV 89512
[?](#) [?](#) [?](#) [?](#)

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From: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 4:00 PM
To: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoecounty.gov>
Subject: A new Service Request has been created [Request ID #160615] (Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment) - Washoe County, NV

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Washoe County, NV

A new service request has been filed.

Service Request Details	
ID	160615
Date/Time	5/6/2024 4:00 PM
Type	Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment
Address	Area - Washoe County
Origin	Control Panel
Comments	WSUP23-0032 (NV Energy) Planning Commissioners, I am not in favor of approving the power lines as described in Permit Case Number WSUP23-0032. If the plans are modified, and the power lines installed in the ground, I would not object to this project. The main reason that I have read or heard in support of placing the power lines above ground is the cost to put the power lines underground is too expensive. The staff report regarding this project does not detail how strong the wind can be on Peavine Mountain and in Verdi.

As I am sure you know, California is considering placing all transmission lines below ground. Since part of this transmission line is in California, is California going to require these power lines to be installed under ground. If not, why not?

If a power line is blown down due to high wind, it will ignite a fire which cannot be stopped until the wind event is over. Firefighting resources are limited in Reno, and when a major wind storm is driving the fire, safety requirements will prevent firefighting aircraft being used to combat the wildfire.

Is the added expense to place the power lines underground worth it. Maybe you can ask the folks who live in Caughlin Ranch who have experienced two recent destructive wildfires if they think putting transmission lines underground is a good idea.

Please take a hard look at putting the transmission lines underground. The project can still be accomplished, and the safety of existing Washoe County residents can be preserved. If it means rate payers must pay a little more, that is the cost of doing business.

It has been stated that rate payers would have to pay for placing the transmission line underground, but I did not see an estimate of how much more rate payers would be paying to put the power lines underground.

Any estimate of the additional cost should be done in a carefully done study, and not a hurried estimate by Nevada Energy.

Respectfully submitted,

Submitter McNeil, Ken
1990 Evergreen Ridge Way
Washoe County, NV
775-787-9855
mcneilkp@aol.com

[View in QAlert](#)

From: [Planning Counter](#)
To: [Egans, Timothy](#)
Cc: [Lloyd, Trevor](#); [Roman, Brandon](#)
Subject: FW: WSUP23-0032 (NV Energy)
Date: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:19:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Hello

See additional public comment for tomorrows Planning Commission.

Courtney

From: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoeconomy.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:17 PM
To: Planning Counter <Planning@washoeconomy.gov>
Subject: FW: WSUP23-0032 (NV Energy)

Greetings,

Below please find the public comment submitted to Washoe311. Let us know if we can provide additional information.

Thank you,



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From: Pam <pmcneil49@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 3:11 PM
To: Washoe311 <Washoe311@washoeconomy.gov>
Subject: WSUP23-0032 (NV Energy)

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Planning Commission,

Undergrounding is a new term - in fact, it's not even in the dictionary. Perhaps we should consider being proactive and adopt undergrounding on this transmission line, instead of being reactive when responding to a fire. Let's foster a more sustainable and resilient community for future generations.

Undergrounding has many impacts including economic and safety - safety to both the human and wildlife population. Do we need to experience a fire in the magnitude of Maui - or even Paradise? Locally, let's look to the Caughlin Ranch fires. By burying utility lines underground, these risks can be mitigated.

Aside from safety concerns, there are also economic benefits, contrary to the statements that this is 7-10 times more expensive than above ground and the costs will be passed on to consumers. The cost of maintenance and repairs to damaged overhead lines can be excessive and staggering and are also passed on to consumers by NV Energy. A recent Federal report estimated the annual cost of weather-related power outages to be approximately \$18-33 billion. By reducing outages by undergrounding, communities can save billions of dollars in lost economic activity, stimulating local economies and growth. Doesn't Washoe County want to be a part of this?

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela McNeil
1990 Evergreen Ridge Way
Reno, Nevada 89523
[775-787-9855](tel:775-787-9855) landline

