Disclaimer: These notes are not exact quotes; they are included in an attempt to capture the general spirit of the discussion and may not be exactly accurate.

Open Forum Notes:

**Todd Haynes:** There are no simple solutions to building transmission, it’s complicated. What’s next? How important is it to this group to try to access out of state markets?

**Lars Dorr:** Barrier: How to compete with the resources in Montana and Wyoming? Is the additional transmission worth it to access superior resources in those states?

**Bob Anderson:** In California most utilities plan to meet RPS goals with instate or close-to-home resources, once they build out, they’ll go shopping for other resources. It’s not just about transmission for wind. Also consider Renewable Energy Credits: We have poorly developed markets for energy markets in the west. If it’s more fluid, we can decouple the energy from the environmental attributes.

**Rich Rayhill:** The midpoint south transmission project is the most important for our markets.

**Haynes:** If we get to midpoint, can we go anywhere from there?

**Dave Angell:** During the open season, they didn’t get much interest for subscription in the northern section.

Gateway west in Wyoming to Jim Bridger down to Downey splits, one to midpoint, one south, meet up in Hemmingway. B2H goes west to Boardman. From there, transmission is congested, probably not the best route.

Gateway West connects to the Populous substation near Downey, connects to Gateway Central running south.

RMP design is to have a triangle from eastern WYo to SLC to Daley. An outage on any one segment still maintains reliability in the region.

There will be capacity down into SLC, but south of SLC is constrained until the project down to LV is built.

_Broad discussion ensued about power line proposals and possible routes in southern Idaho. Broad agreement was reached that a transmission line south out of Idaho toward Las Vegas would be advantageous for Idaho Wind Industry. Southwest Intertie Project (SWIP) was discussed._

**Lou Ann Westerfield:** Regarding the Northern Tier Transmission Group, now is the time to talk. Go to meetings. Show up.

**Haynes:** Next WWG meeting will be in January. Should we keep the agenda focused like today?

Future meeting dates and agendas will be circulated through the ISEA.
**Kurt Myers:** Proposed that every other meeting have a focused agenda, alternate meetings be more general in scope. Next one could be an update, identify issues.

**Haynes:** Already received a request to consider the Avoided Cost issue at January meeting.

**Peter Richardson:** Would like to call a meeting of allied interests to talk about Avoided Cost case.

**Haynes:** Do we need a separate sub group for transmission?

*There was general agreement to keep the transmission topic alive at future meetings.*

**Westerfield:** Next Northern Tier Transmission Group meeting will be Thursday, January 27th in Boise. We could schedule the WWG meeting around that.

**Haynes:** I will invite LS power (developer of SWIP) to the January WWG meeting.

**Q:** Why did Idaho Power mothball the SWIP project?

**Angell:** The original intent was to sell excess power, but now the window of excess power is a narrow time in the spring. Other avenues have turned up. History goes back to the early 1990’s. EPACT 1992 really changed things for IPCo, so they walked away.

ROW is fully secured, about 90% BLM land.

**Richardson:** Possible short term fix, change PUC code to allow utilities to rate base transmission that helps enable economic development in the state.

**Rayhill:** Treate the excess as merchant. A separate corp to run the transmission? If ratebase the transmission?

**Bob Anderson:** This is a non-starter politically.

**Haynes:** We need to show investors, if we build it, they will come.

January 26th will be the tentative date for next meeting. Start talking to LS power immediately.

**Myers:** NV is difficult to develop wind. Distribution of resources is interesting. Idaho wind may have more value because it has different characteristics than Wyoming & Montana wind which is primarily situated east of the continental divide. As a state, Idaho brings this to the table as well.