

August 12, 2025

Public Service Commission of Wyoming  
2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Subject: Proposed MDU transmission line through the Schunk ranch and MDU's request to the Wyoming PSC for a 24.35% rate increase

Dear Commissioners:

This complain outlines my concerns and objections regarding the proposed MDU transmission line on the Schunk ranch property, in Sheridan and their requested rate increase. My residence (16 Roberts Drive) is immediately adjacent to (east) of the property line/fence line between my residence and the Schunk Ranch.

I am one of the area homeowners who live off Sheridan County Road(s) #111 and #113 (Box Cross and Upper Roads). The proposed high-voltage transmission line will adversely affect numerous county homeowners in the vicinity of Big Horn. I am one of those affected homeowners in the 'Little Goose' subdivision. Both Frank and Georgia Boley, and I believe Laurie Goodman (Docket 2004-174-25-record number 17880), have filed complaints with your office.

Rosemary Schunk, as I understand it, is the owner of record for the ranch immediately adjacent to, and west, of my property. Reportedly, an easement agreement was executed, between MDU and Ms. Schunk in April.

None of the homeowners in the area, including myself, were aware of developments leading to the Schunk easement agreement, until recently. As a result, we have all been blindsided.

We are now potentially facing adverse viewshed impact which will also impact our property values, and the risk of health hazards. Besides the visual impact of the transmission lines and adverse impact to our property values, you can google-search the phrase “EMF” and drill into the topics from the drop-down menu. Look for the following web links (there are many more):

[Electric and Magnetic Fields from Power Lines | US EPA](#)

[What Distance is Safe? - EMF Center](#)

[EMF Radiation From Power Lines - What You Need To Know \(EMF Academy\)](#)

It is more than a viewshed/property devaluation issue.

I served as Sheridan County’ Emergency Management Coordinator from 2015-2021. Using an analogy from my time with the Commissioners, we discussed “mitigation” among emergency management topics during weekly staff meetings. And, mitigation is the crux of this issue which we are asking your help with.

Most of the homeowners prefer that the transmission line be buried, if it follows the projected path on Schunk’s property, west of my property line. The alternative is for the transmission line to be located where there are existing power lines along Box Cross and Upper Road. I

anticipate MDU will claim the proposed line is the most expedient route. It is my understanding that the proposed line will connect to the substation near the Kruze Creek Road junction, outside of Big Horn, leading to the Bird Farm Road/U S 87.

Some background context needs to be furnished: to connect to that substation MDU will have to run that transmission line east, no matter which route is chosen. Distances between point A and point B will not change. As a result, the ‘most expedient route/Schunk property’ claim, would be misleading, in my opinion. The eastbound/southbound segment can be installed just as easily along the Box Cross/Upper Road corridors.

According to third-hand reports, MDU is averse to burying the transmission line, stemming from problems installing a line underneath a river in North Dakota. MDU needs to be quizzed about this. If that “problem claim” is accurate, MDU staff had to have identified the problem and developed solutions. If MDU claims problems with the North Dakota river crossing as a justification to avoid burying the transmission line, this is an ‘apple and orange’ issue. Low level aquifer water filtration and seepage from hayfield irrigation are totally different conditions as opposed to burying a transmission line underneath a river.

Also, MDU reportedly claimed they would bury the line if the subdivision homeowners would pay for it. Their offer to bury the line if someone else pays for it, eviscerates MDU’s claim that it is too difficult to bury the transmission line. On a related note, Ms. Goodman’s letter contains links and details involving electrical transmission lines that have been buried in other locations in the U. S.

This brings me to MDU's request to the PSC for a rate increase which is outlined above. I would hope and respectfully ask the commissioners to link approval to MDU's PSC rate increase request, to require that MDU either bury the transmission line across the Schunk property, or route it along the Box Cross Road/Upper Road corridors. Their requested rate increase, not to mention Federal energy grants, will easily offset the costs of burying the transmission line.

I thank for your time and hope that we can enlist your support to mitigate this problem.

Sincerely,

/s/  
Bruce Edwards  
16 Roberts Dr.



PSC WPSC\_Comments <wpsc\_comments@wyo.gov>

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## Fwd: Power line next to chunk subdivision

1 message

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**PSC WPSC\_Complaints** <wpsc\_complaints@wyo.gov>  
To: PSC WPSC\_Comments <wpsc\_comments@wyo.gov>

Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 4:42 PM

Sending you two comments for the MDU formal complaint.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Scott Wendt** <scottwendt81@hotmail.com>  
Date: Tue, Aug 12, 2025 at 9:40 AM  
Subject: Power line next to chunk subdivision  
To: [wpsc\\_complaints@wyo.gov](mailto:wpsc_complaints@wyo.gov) <[wpsc\\_complaints@wyo.gov](mailto:wpsc_complaints@wyo.gov)>

I have property next to schunk property  
And house and property next to Schunk property, I am very opposed to above ground power line, would like MDU to bury power line.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

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**Wyoming Public Service Commission**  
**2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300**  
**Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002**  
[wpsc\\_complaints@wyo.gov](mailto:wpsc_complaints@wyo.gov)

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Act and may be disclosed to third parties.