

Powell Butte Community, May 19, 2025

Better head over to 126 for one last look at the Powell Butte Community welcome sign. It looks like the days of “*good crops, good stock and good neighbors*” could end soon. The Crook County Commissioners and their enablers appear to be on their way with chain saws roaring.

They don’t seem to be satisfied with turning Prineville into a new Bend although the congestion on Third Street shows they are having some success. Now they want to extend their urban/industrial sprawl past the data centers and into North Powell Butte by inviting Pacific Power to bisect the past, present and future of the county’s premier farming and residential area.

The last best place in Central Oregon could soon be just a memory as farmlands are compromised, property values are crushed, and our children are deprived of a heritage that has been nurtured for generations. Sorry kids and grandkids, we invested our sweat and life savings to meet our duty to the community, but the commissioners are still hell bent on seeing the destruction of this last piece of paradise.

And for what? Yes, tell us why the Pacific Power has to erect 160’-180’ steel towers in our back yards. Yes, we are NIMBY’s just like you are, commissioners. We are *shocked* at the *ungrounded* logic you use and we must add the *static* because we are preserving our community. Why won’t you say specifically where new electrical capacity is needed? Must not be in this county if you can approve construction of new solar farms and then sell the power generated to Seattle.

You committed your support to the new 500 kV transmission line corridor before you informed us about the project, and before you came out to look at the damage that will be caused. If you care, that feeling of betrayal will be hard to mend. But, come out now and take a look at the permanent damage you are supporting and you may better understand why the community of *good crops, good stock and good neighbors* is resisting your heritage-destroying political maneuver.

