

To: Pueblo County Commissioners
 Re: Black Hills Energy House Bill 2041, Permit No. 1041
Alternative A4 Route - New proposal for consideration

Let's step back from looking at Black Hills Preferred Route and consider a different, previously approved, Black Hills route. **Alternative A4 Route** meets all project requirements including purpose, need, length and cost but was never considered because of visual impact to a larger number of residents.

(Excerpt in last years **Black Hills' ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS - Canon West Reliability Project** dated November 2018)

Table 1. Comparison of Alternatives (page 15)

Route ID	Does the Alternative Meet the Purpose and Need?	Total Length (Miles)	Miles Under-ground	Parcels Crossed	Residences within 1,000 feet of New Easement	Residences between 1,000 - 2,500 feet of New Easement	Cost Relative to Preferred Route (Pueblo County Only) ⁵
A1	No	19.56	0	39	234	396	1.04P
A2	No	18.89	0	23	234	396	1P
A3	No	17.03	0	16	140	416	0.9P
A4	Yes	15.68	0	18	169 ²	502 ²	0.83P
Preferred	Yes	18.87	0	19	26 ²	180 ²	1P
B1	No	21.37	0	24	247	441	1.13P
B2	No	16.98	0	20	164	386	0.90P
B3	Yes	18.87	3	19	3 ^{2,4}	131 ^{2,4}	1P+8.52M ⁶
B4	Yes	15.32	0	18	191 ²	788 ²	0.81P
B5	Yes	14.97	0	13	191 ²	743 ²	0.79P

¹ Residences between 1,000 and 2,500 feet of the new easement could experience some visual impacts depending on topography and other factors, but the level of visual impacts decreases with distance from the transmission line. Because this alternative would have more visual impacts on residences than the Preferred Route, it was not considered further.

4.2.4 Alternative A4 (page 16 & 17)

Black Hills Energy also considered routing the transmission line further south to run parallel to Hwy 50 into Fremont County. there would be more land owners south of Hwy 50 that would have the line within their view shed as they look west than is proposed under the Preferred Route. **Alternative A4 would result in visual impacts to the largest number of residents** as compared to the other alternatives identified by Black Hills Energy. Because this alternative would have more visual impacts on residences than the Preferred Route, it was not considered further.



This is a view of properties south of Hwy 50. The blue line extends approximately 2500' from the easement on the north side of Hwy 50. The 502 properties, located between the Hwy 50 easement and the end of the blue line, are the Alternative A4 residents. More than ninety percent of these residents would not be able to see a transmission line on the opposite side of Hwy 50. And not be in opposition to it.

Alternative A4 residents should have been included for consideration in the permit process. Surveying these residents is all that remains to possibly end ongoing gridlock.

Pueblo West residents are opposed to Black Hills placement of another unsightly sub station in our community. That substation would be best located, west of Pueblo West, along the north side of Hwy 50, in the area of West McCulloch. The Hwy 50 route, on Walker land, provides a more appropriate location. Black Hills and Gary Walker already have an agreement for the line and sub station to be located on his property.

Your constituents are grateful for the thoughtful consideration Commissioners have given to our pleas and concerns during this long process.

Thank you,

Marcella DeFoe
211 S Spaulding