



Blue Mountain Hospital District

## Community Health Beat



### What's new at BMHD?

#### Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Mammograms save lives! If you're due for an appointment, give us a call to schedule your 3D mammogram today! 3D exams are clinically proven to significantly increase the detection of breast cancers.

541-575-4163

#### Locally Grown Prenatal/Postpartum Classes

If you're expecting, join us for our next series of Prenatal/Postpartum classes starting on October 18th. These are FREE of charge, and a great opportunity for parents to prepare for delivering your baby here in Grant County! Meet your delivery team, ask questions and learn all you'll need to know before your family grows! Register now for August prenatal/postpartum classes by visiting our website. Dinner is provided & all who attend will be entered to win an Elvie Double Breast Pump.

Dates: October 18th, 25th, & November 1st.  
5:30pm-8:00pm

#### Masks Still Required in Healthcare Facilities in Oregon

You may have recently heard the CDC has changed their masking guidelines for healthcare facilities. However, BMHD has to follow the Oregon Health Authority, CMS, and OSHA guidelines which still require masks within healthcare facilities. We appreciate your cooperation while we continue to navigate the guidelines set in place for us! If and when things change, we will be sure to let you know.

#### We're Hiring!

Administrator | Care Center - (Full Time)  
Activities Director | Care Center - (Full Time)  
Nurse Informaticist | Hospital - (Full Time)  
Director of Infection Control - (Full Time)  
Speech Language Pathologist - (Full Time)  
Many other full-time, part-time & casual positions open, visit our website for more information & to apply.

**Flu Shots now available!**  
**Call for an appointment:**  
**541-575-0404**

[www.bluemountainhospital.org](http://www.bluemountainhospital.org)

## Ag groups buck GHG reporting

By CAROL RYAN DUMAS  
Capital Press

WASHINGTON — Agriculture organizations are voicing support for legislation that would prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring publicly traded companies to disclose greenhouse gas emissions along their supply chain arising from farms and ranches.

The Protect Farmers from the SEC Act was introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas, R-Okla., on Thursday. In April, the SEC published a proposed rule to require SEC registrants to provide information about climate-related risks that are likely to have an impact on their business or financial condition.

The Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors would require companies to report their direct emissions (Scope 1), emissions primarily resulting from the generation of electricity they consume (Scope 2) and all other indirect emissions (Scope 3).

Farm groups say Scope 3 would include emissions from the vast majority of farms and ranches, as they provide almost every raw product that goes into the food supply chain.

The groups have raised concerns that farmers and ranchers could be forced to report personal information and business-related data, creating onerous reporting requirements.

They contend the proposal would be burdensome and expensive if not altogether impossible for many small and mid-sized farmers to comply.

"The proposed climate rule is so unwieldy and convoluted

that publicly traded companies will be forced to require small, independent, family farms to report on-farm data regarding individual operations and day-to-day activities," Lucas said.

"In this capacity, the SEC would be granted unprecedented jurisdiction over family farms and ranches ... creating onerous compliance requirements for operations with few or no employees," he said.

The SEC's proposed climate disclosure rule could create substantial costs and legal liabilities for farm families, said Zippy Duvall, president of American Farm Bureau Federation.

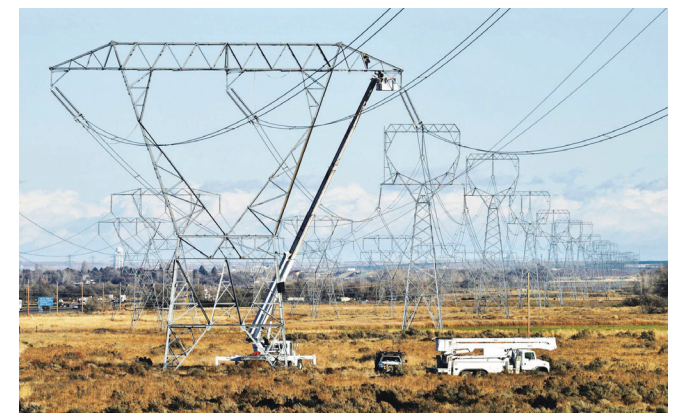
"Unlike large corporations, farmers don't have teams of compliance officers or attorneys dedicated to handling SEC compliance issues," he said.

"We appreciate Rep. Lucas for his efforts to ensure the SEC remains focused on Wall Street while farmers remain focused on putting food on the table for America's families."

National Cattlemen's Beef Association is grateful to Rep. Lucas for protecting cattle from more federal overreach, said Kaitlynn Glover, NCBA executive director of natural resources.

"The SEC's climate disclosure rule would lead to unintended consequences for small businesses like farms and ranches and adds yet another regulatory burden on cattle producers. The SEC should stick to regulating Wall Street, not main street," she said.

The National Association of Wheat Growers thanks Rep. Lucas for introducing this important legislation addressing the inclusion of farming in SEC regulation, said Nicole Berg, NAWG president.



EO Media Group, File

A crew works on a transmission line tower outside Boardman in this undated photo.

## State moves ahead on B2H power line

By BRAD CARLSON  
Capital Press

SALEM — The Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council has approved a site certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway transmission line.

The approximately 290-mile power line would connect the proposed Longhorn Substation east of Boardman to Idaho Power's Hemingway Substation in Owyhee County, Idaho. Cost is estimated at \$1 billion to \$1.2 billion.

Several steps remain in the approval process, said Sven Berg, an Idaho Power spokesman.

The company will ask public utilities commissions in both states to recognize that Boardman to Hemingway is in the public interest, he said. It will seek a permit from Owyhee County to build the eastern stretch of the line across county land. The project also needs a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit for any part of the line that crosses wetlands.

The council's site certificate can be appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court. "We would expect that to be fully adjudicated by mid-2023," Berg said.

The company is conducting environmental, cultural and geotechnical surveys. It is acquiring easement options and rights of entry for private land on or near the route. These steps likely will be part of the conditions of one or more approvals still needed, he said.

Demand grows in the winter in the Northwest and in the summer in the Mountain West, but transmission lines connecting the growing regions cannot carry more energy when it is

needed most, the company said.

The Boardman to Hemingway line is less expensive than building carbon-emitting plants or solar or battery storage facilities, the company said. Plus, it would meet new needs.

More energy from wind, solar and other sources is under development. Better transmission connections to surrounding regions "will help incorporate this clean energy while enhancing grid reliability and keeping customer prices affordable," Lindsay Barretto, Idaho Power senior manager for high voltage and joint projects, said in a release.

The company aims to provide all electricity from "clean" sources by 2045.

Idaho Power leads federal, state and local permitting. It is working on the project with PacifiCorp and the Bonneville Power Administration. Federal agencies previously granted permission for the line to cross land they manage.

Construction is expected to start in 2023 and take three to four years.

"Many problems with the site certificate are unresolved or incomplete," said Jim Kreider of the Stop B2H Coalition. "There's still a ways to go."

Various mitigation plans that the certificate addresses are still in draft form and need to be completed and approved, the coalition said. They cover issues from wildfire and sage grouse habitat mitigation to weed control and underground blasting for tower footings.

The coalition is evaluating the site certificate and its conditions of approval with respect to compliance with state laws and standards. It is considering an appeal, it said in a release.