

MOUNTAIN WEST ORTHOPEDICS
& SPORTS MEDICINE

Chris Belton, DO • Craig Yerke, PA-C

May 10, 2010

Dear Utilities Commission:

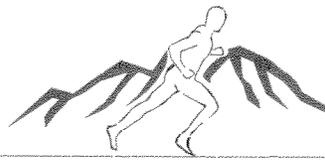
I moved my family to Tooele in July, 2008. I am an orthopedic surgeon, and was born and raised in the Midwest, including suburbs of Chicago, Illinois, St. Louis, Missouri, and Des Moines, Iowa. I received my undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University, where my wife and I met. After completing our undergraduate degrees, we moved to Missouri to attend medical school, and to complete my surgical training.

While finishing my training, it came time for my wife and me to find a community to establish my surgical practice, and raise our family. We entertained practice options all over the country, including communities in Washington State, Missouri, Utah, and Idaho. We spent hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars traveling to the communities that had the greatest potential to meet the desires we had for our family, and for my career. Tooele, Utah became a “surprise” finalist in our search. I had never heard of Tooele, and my wife had never considered Tooele, because of assumptions and preconceived notions she had from her childhood, being raised in Springville, Utah.

We both remember the first trip we made from St. Louis to Tooele. We arrived at the Salt Lake City airport, and drove around the Oquirrh Mountains into the Tooele Valley. My wife was less than optimistic about this particular visit, as we had already seen beautiful areas with promising professional opportunities in other geographic areas. As we entered the city, and saw the southern bench of the Oquirrh Mountains, her attitude quickly changed. I was impressed with the beauty of the valley, and the comfortable feel displayed by the city of Tooele. We both felt as though we had “come home.”

We did our due diligence regarding Tooele County. We loved the hospital, and the community. We selected a lot on the southeast bench for our future home. We were concerned about all the free advice we got about issues such as arsenic, Superfund Sites, chemical depots, and military storage areas. Family and friends questioned our judgment in selecting a community such as Tooele for our family. We researched each of these issues, and were impressed with the positive things Tooele County had done with each of these potentially negative issues.

We finally chose Tooele as our future home. We have been here for almost 2 years. The beauty of the southeast bench had a major impact in our decision to move here. We love the mountains and the resources they provide for our family. We take our 4 children on the trails behind our home. We enjoy Middle Canyon Reservoir in the summer, and enjoy the priceless views of the bench every day we look out our windows. Physicians being recruited by Mountain West Medical Center always come by our neighborhood as



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they explore the area. Without exception, every potential candidate comments on the amazing beauty of this specific area.

If huge power lines were strung along this bench, I am convinced that we would not have had the important first-impression that convinced me and my wife that this could be our new home. I believe it will adversely impact the future development of this community. I have concerns about the future safety of our neighborhood, as well as the impacts these lines will have on our house and property. I feel we will lose the assets we gained by committing to Tooele, and calling it our home.

Please consider the voices of the people who live in this community, and value all it has to offer, especially the beauty of the south-east bench, and the surrounding canyons and reservoirs. We truly feel the beauty and serenity of this property is the greatest asset to Tooele County. We believe power can be brought to the customers of Rocky Mountain Power without compromising the very community they profess to serve.

Sincerely,

Christopher Belton, D.O. and my family.