



## **Magic Valley Energy Response to Idaho Delegation and Local Legislator’s Letter Regarding the Lava Ridge Wind Project**

***Twin Falls, ID (February 7, 2023)*** – The draft Environmental Impact Statement has been a much anticipated milestone for the Lava Ridge Wind Project. This detailed and comprehensive review encompasses answers to the questions and concerns posed by Idaho’s leadership.

The draft EIS provides an unfiltered analysis, correcting much of the misinformation cited by some parties, and provides ample data to show the preferred alternatives will reduce potential impacts to the grazing allotments, wildlife, and places of cultural importance.

The Bureau of Land Management has put forth two preferred alternatives for the Lava Ridge Wind Project that have scaled the original project proposal back to align with cultural, community, and wildlife needs.

“The concerns and questions brought forth in the letters submitted on February 6 are thoughtful and important,” said Luke Papez, MVE Senior Director of Project Development. “The draft EIS addresses these questions, and shows that implementation of BLM preferred alternatives will avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to important resources. This is a good example of how the public process led by the BLM can lead to a compromise all sides can appreciate.”

Papez said the benefits of the project are clearly outlined in the draft EIS, including the hundreds of millions of dollars of economic benefits that would be realized by southern Idaho, and the contribution the project can make toward a cleaner supply of domestic power for utility customers throughout Idaho and the West.

Over the past three years, representatives from Magic Valley Energy have hosted multiple open houses throughout the three Project counties, engaged in more than 50 community organization presentations, and held more than 1,500 individual stakeholder interactions to mold the project into a win for Idaho. The current open comment period is designed to give all stakeholders even further opportunities to participate in this public process. More than 1,500 comments of support have already been received by the BLM.

“We will continue to work with the local landowners, ranchers, and cooperating agencies and communities to create a project that fills the vast need for energy while protecting and enhancing the history, ranching legacies, environment, and important locations in the Magic Valley,” Papez stated.

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*Magic Valley Energy LLC is an affiliate of LS Power, a development, investment and operating company focused on the North American power and energy infrastructure sector. Since its inception in 1990, LS Power has consistently been at the leading edge of the industry’s evolution, often introducing or commercializing new technologies and developing new markets. For more information, please visit [www.LSPower.com](http://www.LSPower.com) or [magicvalleyenergy.com](http://magicvalleyenergy.com)*