



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

February 22, 2024

In reply refer to: TEPP-TPP-2

To: People interested in the McNary-Roundup Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to rebuild the McNary to Roundup 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line in your area. This letter explains what is being proposed, outlines our anticipated environmental review process and schedule, and requests your comments.

Proposal: BPA proposes to rebuild its existing 38.5-mile-long, McNary to Roundup No.1 230-kV transmission line in Umatilla County, Oregon. The wood-pole line connects the BPA McNary Substation in Umatilla, Oregon, to the BPA Roundup Substation near Pendleton, Oregon. The transmission line has been in service for about 70 years and needs to be rebuilt to ensure reliable electric service and the safety of the public and transmission workers who operate and maintain the line.

Along the existing transmission line corridor, the work would include replacing the H-frame wood pole structures, conductors, crossarms, guy lines and anchors, overhead ground wires, and all hardware. The transmission line right-of-way would be cleared of certain vegetation and danger trees would be removed. In addition, access roads would be improved and reconstructed; and small sections of new access roads would be constructed.

The transmission line would be replaced in the existing right-of-way and would continue to be operated at 230-kV. The proposed project would also involve related work within BPA's McNary and Roundup substation electrical yards.

The enclosed project map shows the general project location. An online interactive project map can be found at:

<https://bpagis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/inspect/index.html?appid=f433980a219f45f8bf2e269d88af32f0>. Directions about how to use the online project map is available on the landing page.

Environmental Review and Surveys:

To understand the potential environmental impacts of this proposal, BPA may prepare an environmental assessment (EA). If BPA determines that an EA should be prepared, the EA will describe anticipated impacts to natural and human resources and include mitigation measures that help avoid or minimize impacts. We are **asking for your comments to help determine the issues that should be addressed** in the environmental review. During this process, BPA will work with federal, state and local agencies, Tribes, potentially affected landowners, and other interested parties.

The proposed schedule is as follows:

Comment scoping period	February 22, 2024 – March 23, 2024
EA determination (if warranted)	Spring 2024
Draft EA available for public comment (if warranted)	Spring 2024
Final EA (if warranted)	Fall/Winter 2024
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Fall/Winter 2024
If decision to build, construction start	Fall 2025

How to Comment:

If you have any concerns regarding the project, please send your comments by **March 23, 2024**, and reference the McNary-Roundup Transmission Line Rebuild Project. All comments will be available on the project website at www.bpa.gov/nepa/mcnary-roundup. There are several ways to comment:

Mail: Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs – DKE-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97291-4428

Toll-free: 800-622-4519
FAX: 503-230-4019
Online: www.bpa.gov/comment

For More Information: BPA staff or contractors are already in the area conducting engineering and environmental surveys. If we need to enter property where we do not have existing access rights, we will contact property owners for permission through a separate mailing. Please note that separate from this process, regular line and vegetation maintenance activities may continue to occur along the line to keep it safely operating.

If you have questions regarding the environmental review process, please contact the BPA Environmental Protection Specialist, Doug Corkran, toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-7646, or via e-mail at dfcorkran@bpa.gov.

For other project information, please contact me, the BPA Project Manager, at the toll-free number above, directly at 503-230-5889, or via e-mail at mhnadeau@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,


Mark Nadeau
Project Manager

Enclosures:
Project Map
Comment Form
Return Envelope