



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 61409
Vancouver, WA 98666-1409

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

June 22, 2018

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People Interested in the Bonneville-Hood River Transmission Line Rebuild Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Bonneville-Hood River Transmission Line Rebuild Project. Based on the final EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and has made a decision to proceed with the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

Background: BPA will rebuild the 23-mile, 115-kilovolt Bonneville-Hood River wood-pole and steel lattice H-frame transmission line which runs east from the Bonneville Dam Powerhouse on the Columbia River to Hood River, Oregon. The project is necessary due to the overall age and condition of the line. Improvements will involve replacing wood-pole and steel lattice H-frame structures, replacing conductors and ground wires, and improving access roads and trails.

BPA prepared an EA to help the agency determine if the Proposed Action would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparation of an environmental impact statement. BPA released the draft EA for public review and comment in September 2016 and received comments from ten entities. The final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures, BPA has found that the Proposed Action will not cause any significant impacts, as documented in the FONSI for the project. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Decision: BPA has decided to proceed with the Proposed Action, with Line Mile 19 Option 1, and will rebuild the Bonneville-Hood River line as described in the final EA. Project construction is expected to begin in summer 2018 and continue until winter 2021, with a break in construction during the winter months.

Copies Available: The final EA, FONSI, and mitigation action plan are enclosed if you previously requested them. If you did not receive a copy of any of these documents and would like one, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520. Leave a request with your name, the name of the project, and your complete mailing address. The documents are also available on BPA's website at www.bpa.gov/goto/HoodRiver.

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the project, please contact me at amloran@bpa.gov or 360-619-6634. For questions regarding the environmental review process, contact Katey Grange, Environmental Protection Specialist, at kcgrange@bpa.gov or 503-230-4047. You can also reach us toll free at 1-800-622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amanda Williams
Amanda Williams
BPA Project Manager

Enclosures (if requested):

Final EA
FONSI and Mitigation Action Plan