



Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

May 3, 2017

In reply refer to: TEP-CSB-1

RE: Update on the Marys Peak BPA Communication Site Project

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the status of the Marys Peak Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Communication Site Project (Project). BPA needs to maintain and upgrade its existing communication site located at Marys Peak, approximately 15 miles southwest of Corvallis, in Benton County, Oregon.

The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS), Central Coast Ranger District of the Siuslaw National Forest and the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Northwest Oregon District, have agreed to participate as cooperating agencies under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Both agencies have lands that would be affected by the Project.

BPA, USFS, and BLM conducted the initial public scoping for the project in the fall of 2016. Comments that were submitted can be viewed on the Project website (www.bpa.gov/goto/maryspeak). BPA is in the process of considering all comments received.

BPA expects to present alternatives during an additional public scoping period in the fall of 2017, instead of the spring of 2017 as previously planned. A notification letter with details about the additional scoping period will be sent to the public and posted on the Project website in advance of the additional scoping period.

Environmental Review

BPA will prepare an environmental assessment (EA) under NEPA to describe the alternatives that will be considered, analyze the potential impacts of each alternative, and identify mitigation measures that would help avoid or minimize impacts. During the EA process, BPA will work with cooperating agencies; tribes; federal, state, and local agencies; landowners; and interest groups. The draft EA will be provided to the public for review and comment, and the final agency decision will be made after taking into consideration all comments.

Revised Schedule

The revised schedule for the NEPA process, that follows, is subject to change:

Additional scoping comment period and public meeting	Fall 2017
Draft EA available for public comment	Early 2019
Final EA	Early 2020
NEPA decision	Early 2020

Any construction or operational changes that could result from the agency decision could be implemented as early as the summer of 2020

For More Information

For more information about the project, visit the project website at www.bpa.gov/goto/maryspeak or call toll-free 1-800-622-4519.

For questions about the project proposal, please contact me at 360-619-6276 or bbyounce@bpa.gov. You may also contact Molly Kovaka, Senior Project Manager, Flux Resources, LLC at 360-619-6262 or mckovaka@bpa.gov.

For questions regarding the environmental process, please contact Kimberly St.Hilaire, Environmental Protection Specialist, at 503-230-5361 or krsthilaire@bpa.gov, or Becky Hill, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, Flux Resources, LLC at 503-230-7312, or rlhillclark@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Benjamin Younce
Benjamin Younce
Project Manager