



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Spokane District
Wenatchee Field Office
915 Walla Walla Avenue
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

IN REPLY REFER TO:
2850 (ORW020)
WAOR 65753

Notice of Availability

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Vantage to Pomona Heights 230 kV Transmission Project (DOI-BLM-OR-134-2013-0002-EIS)

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) prepared this Draft EIS (DEIS) in consultation with cooperating agencies to analyze the effects of granting, granting with conditions, or denying Pacific Power's (the applicant) right-of-way applications to construct, operate and maintain a 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, associated access roads, and other ancillary facilities. The U.S. Army - Joint Base Lewis McChord Yakima Training Center (JBLM YTC), U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and Grant and Yakima Counties are cooperating agencies and assisted with the preparation of this DEIS.

Project Location

The Project area is situated in south-central Washington State, extending from BPA's Vantage substation, just east of Wanapum Dam in Grant County, to Pacific Power's Pomona Heights substation near Selah, Washington. A total of eight transmission line route alternatives are considered in the DEIS, along with the "No Action" alternative. The eight end-to-end route alternatives range from 61 to 67 miles in length and cross portions of Benton, Grant, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties.

Public Review of the Draft EIS

The BLM is soliciting written comments on the DEIS. The forty-five (45) day public comment period for the DEIS will begin on January 4, 2013 and end on February 19, 2013. The Draft EIS is available for review online at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/vph230.php>. A CD containing the DEIS is available upon request. Please contact the BLM Wenatchee Field office to request a CD.

Contact by Mail

BLM Wenatchee Field Office (Attn: Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS)
915 Walla Walla Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801-1521

Contact by Phone: 509-665-2100

Contact by e-mail: OR_Wenatchee_Mail@blm.gov

Copies of the DEIS will also be available for review at the following locations during regular business hours:

Repository Site	Address
Mattawa Community Library	101 Manson Lane, Mattawa, Washington
Terrace Heights Library	4011 Commonwealth Rd., Yakima, Washington
Bureau of Land Management, Wenatchee Field Office	915 Walla Walla Ave., Wenatchee, Washington
Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office	1103 N. Fancher Rd., Spokane Valley, Washington

Public Meetings

The BLM will host open house public meetings in Mattawa and Selah, Washington during the comment period. The meetings will provide an overview of the Project and take public comments on the proposed Project and DEIS. The public meetings will be announced by the BLM at least 15 days in advance through the BLM website, public notices, local media news release, and/or mailings.

Ways to Submit Comments

Comments related to the Vantage to Pomona Heights 230kV Transmission Line Project DEIS may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Online at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/vph230.php>
- By email to: OR_Wenatchee_Mail@blm.gov (please specify Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS in the subject line)
- By mail to: BLM Wenatchee Field Office, Attn: Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS, 915 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington 98801-1521
- By fax: (509) 665-2121, Attention Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS Project Manager
- Written comments may also be hand delivered to the BLM Wenatchee Field Office (address listed above) between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, but excluding federal holidays.

Comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible. It would be helpful if comments referred to chapters and/or sections of the DEIS. Comments may address the adequacy of specific analyses in the DEIS and the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the document (refer to Council on Environmental Quality regulations at 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §1503.3).

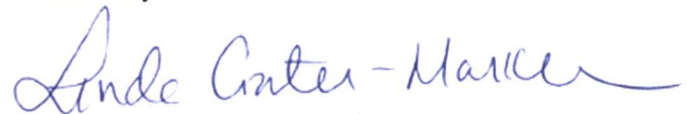
For all comments submitted, please identify whether you are submitting them as an individual or as the designated spokesperson on behalf of an organization. All comment submittals must include the commenter's name and address. However, before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment-including your personal information-may be made publically

available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

For further information, contact the Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS Project Manager at the BLM's Wenatchee Field Office, telephone (509) 665-2100, or at the address shown above.

We appreciate your interest in public land management and look forward to receiving your comments on the DEIS.

Sincerely,



Linda Coates-Markle
Field Manager

