

Willamette National Forest Objection Period Public Notice, Posted in Eugene Register Guard June 29, 2017

The Bonneville Power Administration proposes to rebuild its 26-mile long Hills Creek-Lookout Point Transmission Line generally located between Lowell and Oakridge. Within the Willamette National Forest, the transmission line extends along north of the Lookout Point Reservoir on the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the western boundary of the Forest to the base of the Hills Creek Dam. The project would include replacing wood-pole structures and other line components that support the transmission line. BPA would realign two portions of the transmission line at risk of damage from rock fall and landslides. Transportation related activities would include new road and trail construction and road maintenance. Other activities would include removal of vegetation located adjacent to and within the right-of-way that has the potential to fall or grow into or grow too close to the conductor. Two alternatives were analyzed in the EA; a no action alternative and the Proposed Action.

The project area occurs within portions of Townships 19, 20 and 21 South, Ranges 1 West, and 1 2, and 3 East of the Willamette Meridian.

The Draft Decision Notice, EA and other related documents are available on the Bonneville Power Administration Website at: <http://www.bpa.gov/goto/HillsCreekLookoutPoint>

Objections may be submitted in the following ways: **1) Electronic Submission:** Electronic objections will be accepted through the Forest Service online comment system available at: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=47770>; **2) Delivered to:** Springfield Interagency Office at 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite D, Springfield, Oregon between 8:00am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday except legal holidays; or **3) Mailed to:** Tracy Beck, Forest Supervisor, Willamette National Forest, Attention: Objections, 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite D, Springfield, Oregon 97477. Objections delivered by mail must be received before the close of the fifth business day after the objection filing period.

The project is subject to pre-decisional administrative review pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subpart B. The 45-day objection period begins the day following publication of notice of objection in the Eugene-Register Guard, the newspaper of record. Only individuals or organizations who submitted specific written or oral comments (36 CFR 218.2) during the designated opportunity for public participation (scoping or 30-day comment period) may object (36 CFR 218.5). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted specific written comments regarding the proposed project and attributed to the objector, unless the issue is based on new information that arose after the opportunities for comment. The burden is on the objector to demonstrate compliance with the requirement for objection issues 36 CFR 218.8 (c).

Minimum requirements of an objection are described in 36 CFR 218.8 (d). An objection must include: a description of those aspects of the proposed project addressed by the objection, including specific issues related to the proposed project; if applicable, how the objector believes the environmental analysis or draft decision specifically violates law, regulation, or policy; suggested remedies that would resolve the objection; supporting reasons for the reviewing officer to consider; and a statement that demonstrates the connection between prior specific written comments on the particular proposed project and the content of the objection, unless the objection concerns an issue that arose after the designated opportunities for comment. Objections can be submitted in several forms, but must be received by the Forest Supervisor, the Objection Deciding Officer, within 45 days from the date of publication of notice of objection in the Eugene Register-Guard. The publication date in the Eugene Register-Guard is the exclusive

means for calculating the time to file an objection. Attachments to the Objection received after the 45 day objection period will not be considered. Those wishing to object to this Draft Decision Notice should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact Allen Hambrick, District Planner at (541) 782-5217 or Duane F Bishop, Middle Fork Ranger at (541) 782-5320 or visit the above EA project website.

The Objection Period begins the day after the legal ad appears in the Register Guard which was 06/29/2017.

The Objection Period is from 06/30/2017 through 08/13/2017.