NEWS RELEASE:
BPA seeks public input on southwestern Oregon project

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Crystal Ball, BPA, 503-230-5133

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PORTLAND, **Ore.** – The Bonneville Power Administration next week will seek comments from the citizens of southwestern Oregon on proposed transmission facilities.

BPA is proposing to build a 75-mile 500-kilovolt transmission line from Goshen, just south of Eugene, to a new substation near North Bend on the Oregon coast. The line would reinforce BPA's electrical service to the southern coast of Oregon and provide the transmission necessary for a possible new steel mill that Nucor Corporation may build in the Coos Bay/North Bend area. The proposed project also includes a new 230-kV line between BPA's proposed new substation and PacifiCorp's Isthmus Substation and a second double circuit 230-kV line between the new substation and the mill. Three public meetings are planned next week to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the entire proposed project.

Creswell: April 14	**Elkton: April 15**	**North Bend: April 16**
Community Center	**Masonic Lodge Hall**	**Community Center**
99 South First St.	**247 First Street**	**2222 Broadway**

People interested in the project may come to the open house meetings between 4 and 8 p.m. to talk with staff from BPA, the state of Oregon, Nucor, PacifiCorp and the federal agencies working with BPA. Project materials, including maps, will be on hand.

BPA provides transmission service to electric utilities along the southern Oregon coast. BPA had planned to enhance the existing transmission system in the area but not for a few years. If Nucor decides to build the new steel mill, BPA and PacifiCorp will proceed with the environmental studies. If Nucor decides to go elsewhere, the agencies will stop their work. However, BPA will continue to study the issue of upgrading the transmission system to the southern Oregon coast for anticipated growth.

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