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NEWS RELEASE:
BPA invites more public comment on transmission line

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PORTLAND, Ore. - The Bonneville Power Administration will host additional public meetings next week to discuss possible routes for a new transmission line, including routes that follow existing transmission corridors.

BPA is proposing to build a 500-kilovolt transmission line to the southern Oregon coast. The line would reinforce BPA's electrical service to the region and provide the transmission necessary for a steel mill that Nucor Corporation may build in the Coos Bay/North Bend area. One possible transmission route follows an existing transmission line coming west from the Dixonville Substation, located southeast of Roseburg, to Fairview and then northwest to Coos Bay. BPA has made no decisions about the transmission alternatives and invites the public to two public meetings to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the entire proposed project.

Winston: June 1
Douglas High School
1381 Northwest
Douglas

Coquille: June 2
Community Building
115 North Birch

People interested in the project may come to the open house meetings anytime 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 is committed to providing reliable transmission service to electric utilities in the southern Oregon coast area. Growth in the area will eventually require additional transmission capacity, whether or not the Nucor steel mill is built. The added capacity is required more immediately if Nucor decides to build a new steel mill.

The public may comment on the proposed project any time, but only comments received before June 15 will be considered as BPA prepares its draft Environmental Impact Statement. The draft should be available for review this fall.

For more information, check out the South Oregon Coast Reinforcement World Wide Web site at: www.efw.bpa.gov/Environment/POLICIES/NEPA/SOCR

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