

Libby (FEC)-Troy 115kV Line Rebuild

The project is to rebuild the Libby-Troy section as a 115 kV single circuit in primarily the existing right-of-way, with the exception of a re-alignment at the Kootenai River crossing, in order to improve reliability and availability so that the transmission line meets BPA and WECC standards.

Over the years the line has been poorly maintained due primarily to the remoteness of the line and its inaccessibility. Today the line has decaying cross-arms and poles and failing conductor fittings. The deteriorating condition of the line has contributed to an increasing number of outages over the last five years and the duration of these outages is also increasing. If no action is taken, the line will continue to deteriorate, experience increasing frequency and longer outages, and require greater maintenance to keep the line in operating condition. When this section of the line is out of service, BPA's NW Montana and north Idaho service areas would be reduced to radial feeds from Libby Dam and Albeni Falls, and there would thus be a greater risk of potential load loss to these customers.

The project is scheduled to be complete by November 30, 2009. Project cost estimates are business sensitive information and cannot be disclosed until the competitive solicitation, evaluation, negotiation and award processes with vendors is completed.