

# Journal

September 2010

## Wind farms will “talk” to appliances

BPA and Mason County Public Utility District Number 3 are partnering on a smart grid pilot project to help manage the electricity grid and use wind power more effectively.

The project addresses two fundamental bottlenecks in the power grid: congestion during times of high power use and the imbalance created when more wind-powered energy is being generated than is being used.

Mason County PUD 3 will install special devices on water heaters that will communicate with the electrical grid and tell the appliances to turn on or off, based on conditions on the regional electrical system and the amount of renewable energy available. Homeowners can override the water heater device at any time, and, with modern insulated water heaters, it is unlikely they will even notice a change in water temperature.

Shifting water heater energy use to a time when consumption is lower helps level out the peaks and valleys of energy use, which makes the balancing act of supply and demand a little easier. This is especially valuable when managing variable power sources like wind power. And reducing electricity use during peak hours can help Mason County PUD 3 and its customers save money.

Another goal is to see if the device can determine when wind power is readily available and fire up water heaters to take advantage of it. The wind energy heats up the water, which is stored for the family’s use.

Installation of the devices in 100 participating homes should begin in October.

## BPA releases new I-5 project map

BPA released a new map of possible power line segments the agency will consider for its I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project. The updated map outlines segments for further environmental review and includes new potential route segments in eastern Clark County farther from population centers and two new potential substation sites near Castle Rock, Wash.

The proposed project is needed to resolve a critical electric bottleneck that could otherwise lead to outages in southwest Washington and northwest Oregon as early as 2016. No new

high-voltage power lines have been built in the area in more than four decades, although the area population has doubled.

Two public meetings in southwest Washington and northwest Oregon are scheduled in September to explain the status of the project and the next steps. (See calendar.)

To learn more, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/I5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/I5). The site now features an interactive map so landowners and others can find a specific location to the proposed segments.

## Treaty talks begin

Since 1964, the Columbia River Treaty has brought benefits to both the United States and Canada by providing a cooperative way to regulate a valuable resource that both countries share. Under the Treaty, the two nations jointly manage the river for power generation and flood control as it flows from British Columbia into the United States.

Although the Treaty has no termination date, it does have two provisions that take effect on and after Sept. 16, 2024. Absent any action, these provisions will change how flood control is implemented between Canada and the U.S., which in turn may affect power benefits.

The U.S. Entity charged with implementing the Treaty is made up of the BPA administrator and the division engineer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Northwestern Division. Supported by a team of BPA and Corps employees, the U.S. Entity has been working with its Canadian counterpart, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, to review the flood and power implications associated with these provisions. A preliminary report of the study – called the Phase I Report – is now available.

## Watch us work

### WONDER HOW THE PROPOSED I-5 CORRIDOR REINFORCEMENT PROJECT WOULD BENEFIT YOU?

Watch the project video at [www.bpa.gov/go/news](http://www.bpa.gov/go/news), or visit our **Facebook** page and **YouTube** channel. Also on video: see how BPA is greening its fleet with hybrid vehicles



The Treaty allows either the United States or Canada to terminate many of the provisions of the Treaty with a minimum of 10 years' written notice. With the release of the Phase I report, a multi-year public process has begun.

The U.S. Entity will issue a Supplemental Report this month that overlays fish operations on to the power and flood control studies conducted in Phase 1. Other regional concerns, such as ecosystem health, water supply and quality, climate change, cultural resources, recreation, navigation and irrigation, will be addressed in future studies.

The review will enable the U.S. Entity to make an informed recommendation to the U.S. Department of State as to whether or not it is in the best interest of the U.S. to continue the Treaty, terminate the Treaty or seek to negotiate with Canada to amend the Treaty.

For more details, go to [www.crt2014-2024review.gov/](http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov/).

## Customers seek transmission service

BPA customers signed 76 transmission agreements totaling 3,759 megawatts in the 2010 Network Open Season.

Under the open season, those seeking transmission capacity are asked to sign Precedent Transmission Service Agreements, which commit them to take service at a specified time and under specified terms.

Out of the 121 PTSAs BPA offered for participation this year, 63 percent were returned by customers for consideration. These PTSAs represent 51 percent of the eligible megawatts. The same time last year, 41 percent of eligible requests were returned, representing 32 percent of the original eligible megawatts.

BPA now will determine whether it can authorize any of the requests with existing transmission. Transmission Services will study the remaining requests in a cluster study to see what would need to be done to accommodate those requests.

Results of this study are expected in early 2011, at which point BPA will conduct a financial analysis on any new

network upgrades. A decision on any expansion facilities necessary to accommodate the requests is expected no later than May 2011.

## Pikeminnow reward season extended

Lower, warmer water conditions are likely contributing to the bumper crop of pikeminnow caught during this year's Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery Program. Compared to this time last year, the 2010 season numbers are ahead by 30,000 fish. The season has been extended 10 days through Oct. 10.

The program provides cash for catching pikeminnow, a large member of the minnow family, in the Columbia and Snake rivers. These predators consume millions of young salmon and steelhead every year. Research shows that reducing the number of pikeminnow helps salmon and steelhead survival.

Some program stations will close as originally scheduled and hours will change for others, so check out [www.pikeminnow.org](http://www.pikeminnow.org) or call 800-858-9015.

The program is administered by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and is funded by BPA.

## Two new displays available online

BPA's website has two new features: one provides an instantaneous glimpse of electric generation and demand in BPA's section of the Northwest grid; and another is a unique display of near real-time wind data.

To view the current energy output of hydroelectric dams and thermal power plants, as well as minute-by-minute wind energy output and current power consumption, go to <http://go.usa.gov/ODD>.

To view the animated wind display, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/windsocks](http://www.bpa.gov/go/windsocks). The last three hours of data from 14 new BPA weather stations are displayed as "windsocks" moving and changing shape to reflect wind conditions. The display is designed to give power managers an instant picture of regional wind and weather conditions.

# Public Involvement [Updates & Notices]

## AGENCY PROJECTS

### Residential Exchange Program [Regionwide]

BPA is accepting comments through Sept. 16 on proposed language for new Residential Exchange Program protocols relating to the Compliance Review Program. Comments should be limited to language necessary in the Residential Purchase and Sale Agreement contract in setting the terms and conditions for the Compliance Review. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/corporate/finance/ascm/letters.cfm](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/finance/ascm/letters.cfm).

### Columbia River Treaty 2014-2024 Review

The U.S. Entity to the Columbia River Treaty will release a supplement to its Phase 1 Technical Study Report this month. The Phase 1 report,

released last month, examines how power and flood control could be affected post-2024 under various scenarios, primarily termination or continuation of the treaty. The Phase 1 Report was a joint effort between BC Hydro (the Canadian Entity) and BPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which make up the U.S. Entity. The 1964 Treaty is an international agreement between Canada and the United States for the cooperative development and operation of water resources in the Columbia River basin. For information, go to [www.crt2014-2024review.gov/](http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov/).

### Jefferson County PUD [Regionwide]

BPA accepted public comments on the draft wholesale power contract presented to Jefferson County Public Utility District, which is expanding its utility operations to provide retail electric service. BPA has decided that

Jefferson PUD would be eligible for service and will execute a Regional Dialogue contract with the PUD.

### **Integrated Program Review [Regionwide]**

BPA posted the draft closeout report documenting the expected costs going into the next rate case. The IPR Final Close-Out Report is expected in late summer. BPA accepted comments on its proposed Transmission Services staffing scenario through Sept. 1 as part of the IPR process. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/IBR/IPR/](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/IBR/IPR/).

### **2012 BPA Rate Proceeding [Regionwide]**

BPA will conduct a combined power and transmission rate proceeding, the 2012 BPA Rate Case (BP-12), to set rates for the FY 2012-2013 period. The Initial Proposal will be published in Nov. 2010. Rate case workshops will be held through the fall to help customer utilities and others become familiar with and work through cost allocation issues informally before the formal proceedings. (See calendar.) For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/corporate/ratecase/2012/](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/ratecase/2012/).

### **Energy Efficiency post-2011 proposal [Regionwide]**

BPA has been conducting a two-phase public process to engage customers and other stakeholders in the role BPA should play to facilitate the continued successful development of energy efficiency at the lowest cost to the region. Phase 1 was recently closed-out with a letter to the region, response to public comments and the issuance of the final policy framework for post-2011. Phase 2 began in July and consists of five workgroups that are working to provide recommendations to BPA on the implementation of energy efficiency programs. Workgroups will continue in September (see calendar). BPA will consider these recommendations and then make a proposal available for public comment, which will provide guidance to BPA on program implementation. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/post-2011/](http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/post-2011/).

## **FISH AND WILDLIFE – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW**

### **Klickitat Hatchery Program EIS [Klickitat County, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Klickitat\\_Hatchery\\_Program/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Klickitat_Hatchery_Program/).

### **Yakama Nation Mid-Columbia Coho Restoration Project [Chelan and Okanogan Counties, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Mid-Columbia\\_Coho\\_Restoration\\_Project/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Mid-Columbia_Coho_Restoration_Project/).

### **Northeast Oregon Hatchery Program, Grande Ronde-Imnaha Spring Chinook Hatchery Project [Wallowa County, Ore.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Grande\\_Ronde/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Grande_Ronde/).

## **POWER – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW**

### **Direct Service Industry lookback issues [Regionwide]**

BPA accepted cross comments (comments from parties responding to issues raised in the first phase of public comment) on the draft ROD addressing several legal issues relating to the potential for “lookback” payments to or from its direct-service industry customers. BPA will evaluate the record and issue a final ROD. For more, go to [www.bpa.gov/power/pl/regionaldialogue/implementation/documents](http://www.bpa.gov/power/pl/regionaldialogue/implementation/documents).

### **Draft Resource Program [Regionwide]**

The draft Resource Program examines the agency’s projected power supply needs for 2012–2019 under Regional Dialogue contracts. BPA expects to release a final Resource Program this summer. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/power/P/ResourceProgram/Index.shtml](http://www.bpa.gov/power/P/ResourceProgram/Index.shtml).

## **TRANSMISSION – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW**

### **I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project [Oregon and Washington]**

BPA is proposing a new 500-kilovolt transmission line from a new substation near Castle Rock, Wash., to a new substation near BPA’s Troutdale Substation, Troutdale, Ore. BPA announced project updates in August and is holding two meetings this month to provide project information and collect comments. A draft EIS is scheduled for fall 2011 followed by another formal comment period. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/i5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/i5).

### **Big Eddy-Knight Transmission Project [Wasco County, Ore., and Klickitat County, Wash.]**

BPA is proposing a new 500-kilovolt transmission line between BPA’s existing Big Eddy Substation in The Dalles, Ore., and a new substation (Knight) under an existing BPA line near Goldendale, Wash. BPA expects to issue a draft EIS in early fall. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Big\\_Eddy-Knight/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Big_Eddy-Knight/).

### **Central Ferry-Lower Monumental Transmission Line Project [Garfield, Columbia and Walla Walla counties, Wash.]**

BPA is proposing a new 500-kilovolt transmission line between the new BPA Central Ferry Substation in Garfield County and BPA’s Lower Monumental Substation in Walla Walla County, Wash. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/centralferrylomo](http://www.bpa.gov/go/centralferrylomo).

### **Hooper Springs Transmission Project [Caribou County, Idaho]**

BPA is proposing a new 115-kilovolt transmission line and a new 138/115-kV substation, called Hooper Springs Substation, in Caribou County, Idaho. The project is needed to improve voltage stability and reliability on the transmission grid and to meet future load growth in southeast Idaho and the Jackson Hole area. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/hoopersprings](http://www.bpa.gov/go/hoopersprings).

### **Walla Walla-Tucannon River Transmission Line Rebuild [Walla Walla and Columbia counties, Wash.]**

BPA is proposing to rebuild the 47-mile Walla Walla-Tucannon River 115-kilovolt transmission line. The agency will produce a preliminary EA this fall or winter. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Walla\\_Walla-Tucannon\\_River\\_Rebuild/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Walla_Walla-Tucannon_River_Rebuild/).

### **Albany-Eugene Transmission Line Rebuild [Lane and Linn counties, Ore.]**

BPA is proposing to rebuild approximately 32 miles of a 115-kilovolt wood pole transmission line. Resource studies were completed this summer. The agency will produce a preliminary EA this fall or winter. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/albany-eugene](http://www.bpa.gov/go/albany-eugene).

### **Bandon-Rogue No.1 Transmission Line Rebuild [Coos and Curry counties, Ore.]**

BPA is proposing to rebuild the 115-kilovolt wood-pole Bandon-Rogue line. The agency will produce a preliminary EA this fall or winter. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Bandon-Rogue\\_Rebuild/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Bandon-Rogue_Rebuild/).

### **Grand Coulee Dam Line Replacement [Okanogan, Grant and Douglas counties, Wash.]**

The Bureau of Reclamation asked BPA to construct six new 500-kilovolt overhead transmission lines at Grand Coulee Dam to replace aging underground lines between the dam’s third powerhouse and the 500-kV spreading yard. The schedule to release the draft EA has been delayed. Look for updates in the Journal about the release of the draft EA and public meetings. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Grand\\_Coulee/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Grand_Coulee/).

## **Juniper Canyon II Wind Interconnection Project [Klickitat County, Wash.]**

Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., asked BPA to interconnect up to 101 megawatts from the proposed Juniper Canyon II Wind Project. To interconnect the project, BPA would build a new substation, along an existing BPA transmission line near the town of Roosevelt, Wash. BPA will complete a ROD this fall or winter. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/junipercanyonII](http://www.bpa.gov/go/junipercanyonII).

## **Radar Ridge Wind Project Interconnection [Pacific County, Wash.]**

Energy Northwest asked BPA to interconnect up to 82 megawatts of power generated from the proposed Radar Ridge Wind Project located in Pacific County, Wash. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will complete an EIS, and BPA will serve as a cooperating agency under NEPA. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Radar\\_Ridge\\_Wind\\_Project/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Radar_Ridge_Wind_Project/).

## **Whistling Ridge Energy Project [Skamania County, Wash.]**

In May, BPA released a joint draft EIS with the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. BPA and EFSEC accepted comments last month. Comments received by both agencies will be addressed in the final EIS, which is expected to be released in spring 2011. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/whistling](http://www.bpa.gov/go/whistling).

## **Horn Butte Wind Project [Gilliam and Morrow counties, Ore.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Horn\\_Butte\\_Wind\\_Project/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Horn_Butte_Wind_Project/).

## **Antelope Mountain Communication Project [Deschutes County, Ore.]**

BPA proposes to construct a new 616 square-foot communications building and 80-foot microwave tower at the Antelope Communications Site on Pine Mountain near Bend, Ore., to help BPA maintain and operate the transmission system safely and reliably. BPA is waiting for approval from the U.S. Forest Service to begin construction. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/corporate/public\\_affairs/docs/2010/](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/public_affairs/docs/2010/).

## **Transmission Services Facility Project [Vancouver, Wash.]**

BPA is conducting a feasibility study on building a new office building on its Ross Complex in Vancouver to meet workspace needs. BPA will produce a preliminary EA this fall or winter. The feasibility study is expected to be complete by early 2011. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/pdf/Transmission\\_Services\\_September\\_2009.pdf](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/pdf/Transmission_Services_September_2009.pdf).

## **FISH AND WILDLIFE – PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

### **Chief Joseph Hatchery Program [Okanogan County, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Chief\\_Joseph/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Chief_Joseph/).

### **Lyle Falls Fish Passage Project [Klickitat County, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Lyle\\_Falls/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Lyle_Falls/).

## **TRANSMISSION – PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

### **Juniper Canyon I Wind Interconnection Project [Klickitat County, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Juniper\\_Canyon\\_Wind/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Juniper_Canyon_Wind/).

### **Albeni Falls-Sand Creek Transmission Line Project [Bonner County, Idaho]**

For information, go to [www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission\\_Projects/default.cfm?page=albe](http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission_Projects/default.cfm?page=albe).

### **McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project [Sherman and Umatilla counties, Ore., Klickitat and Benton Counties, Wash.]**

For information, go to [www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission\\_Projects/](http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission_Projects/).

### **Leaning Juniper II-Jones Canyon Substation Expansion Wind Interconnection Project [Gilliam County, Ore.]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Leaning\\_Juniper/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Leaning_Juniper/).

### **Palisades-Goshen Transmission Line Reconstruction [Bonneville and Bingham counties, Idaho]**

For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Palisades/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Palisades/).

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

To view BPA's public involvement calendar, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/calendar](http://www.bpa.gov/go/calendar). For Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, please call toll free 800-622-4519.

### **I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project public meetings**

- **Sept. 8**, 5 to 8 p.m. — Amboy Middle School, 22115 N.E. Chelatchie Rd., Amboy, Wash.
- **Sept. 12**, noon to 6 p.m. — Union High School, 6201 N.W. Friberg Strunk St., Camas, Wash.

### **2012 BPA Rate Proceeding workshops: Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 9th Ave., Portland, Ore.**

- **Sept. 14**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Power)
- **Sept. 15**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Transmission)
- **Sept. 16**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Wind/Generation Inputs)

### **Energy Efficiency post-2011 Phase 2:**

- **Midpoint meeting: Sept. 8**, 9 a.m. to noon, Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 9th Ave., Portland, Ore.
- **Workgroup meetings:** Go to [www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/post-2011/](http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/post-2011/) for up-to-date meeting information.

## **CLOSE OF COMMENT**

**Sept. 16** – Residential Exchange Program

The Journal is a monthly publication of the Bonneville Power Administration. If you have questions or comments, or you want to be added to the mailing list for any project, call toll free (800) 622-4519.

To order copies of documents, call: (800) 622-4520 or (503) 230-7334. Written comments may be sent to: BPA, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR 97293-4428. E-mail address: [comment@BPA.gov](mailto:comment@BPA.gov). BPA home page: [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov). For details on BPA environmental reviews listed above, including site maps and documents issued to date, see [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/nepadocs.aspx](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/nepadocs.aspx). Process Abbreviations: EA-Environmental Assessment, EIS-Environmental Impact Statement, ESA-Endangered Species Act, FONSI-Finding of No Significant Impact, NOI-Notice of Intent, ROD-Record of Decision.