

# Journal

September 2011

## BPA selects new deputy

Bill Drummond, long a major figure in the Northwest power industry, will become BPA's deputy administrator, the number two position at the Northwest's federal power marketing agency, by Nov. 1. Drummond now manages the Western Montana Electric Generating and Transmission Cooperative in Missoula, Mont.

Western Montana G&T secures wholesale power supplies for five Montana rural electric cooperatives and one tribal utility that together serve more than 100,000 consumers.

Drummond serves on many regional task forces and committees on Northwest power issues. Since 2001, he has served on the board of the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, which supports renewable resource development through innovative green power products.

Since 2009, he has been on the board of the nonprofit Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. He is a member of the regional Northwest Wind Integration Forum policy steering committee and of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Task Force, both co-sponsored by BPA and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

From 1988 to 1994, Drummond led the Public Power Council, an association of Northwest publicly owned utilities. Drummond has served on national committees of the American Public Power Association and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Drummond has degrees in forestry from the University of Montana and economics from the University of Arizona.

## BPA, partners strengthen connection between regions

New substation and equipment upgrades on high-voltage power lines linking the Northwest and Southwest will allow the two regions to share more surplus energy, strengthening the transmission grid, providing flexibility and allowing the regions to share affordable and environmentally friendly electricity.

The upgrades to the California-Oregon Intertie come as BPA is also upgrading and constructing high-voltage

transmission lines within the Northwest to support the growth of renewable energy such as wind and ease bottlenecks in the system. Crews began making the upgrades in fall 2008 and recently completed the work.

The California-Oregon Intertie is jointly owned by BPA, Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp. BPA owns most of the transmission capacity on this system and operates the COI. The lines have the capacity to carry 4,800 megawatts but before the upgrades often carried less energy due to operational constraints. These improvements will allow BPA to operate the line at the full 4,800-megawatt capacity much more frequently.

The improvements also benefit the high-voltage direct current intertie that connects the BPA transmission to southern California. The improvements will allow BPA to operate that line at its capacity of 3,100 megawatts more often as well.

## Watch us work

**FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE UP TO.** This month, we show you how:

- **We're helping the Shoshone Bannock Tribes restore Spring Creek,** home to Yellowstone Cutthroat trout.
- **Port Angeles is saving money and integrating renewable energy.** The benefits will come through a BPA demand response pilot project to store energy to use at less expensive non-peak times.
- **The Yakama Nation is remodeling the Lyle Falls fishway.** This and other changes will help the tribe trap more wild fish to use as broodstock to help strengthen the hatchery raised gene pool.
- **Tacoma Power is making great strides in energy efficiency.** Between 2007 and 2010, the utility increased its acquisition of energy efficiency by 950 percent.

**TO WATCH** these and other videos, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/news](http://www.bpa.gov/go/news). You can also visit our **Facebook** page and **YouTube** channel.



The added transmission capacity may also help relieve generation oversupply situations such as the one the region experienced this spring. This year, mild temperatures reduced demand and an abundance of hydropower boosted the supply. In this case, California did not need extra energy from the Northwest and the Interties were not fully utilized. However, the additional capacity could be very helpful during a year with warmer California spring temperatures and less water in the California hydro system.

## Aircraft Services receives aviation award

BPA's Aircraft Services received the 2010 DOE Aviation Program Award this summer. Aircraft Services pilots and machinists as well as support and managerial staff maintain four helicopters and two airplanes.

The helicopters are regularly used to perform aerial inspections of BPA's transmission system and recently helped train field crews in using helicopter transport to rescue injured workers from transmission lines. By using the BPA airplanes to transport personnel, in 2010 Aircraft Services saved BPA \$1.3 million in travel costs, per diem and lost time.

BPA has operated aircraft since 1947 and has owned and operated aircraft since 1951. The agency has one of the oldest federal aviation programs, established before other federal programs such those of NASA and the United States Border Patrol.

## Anglers catch more than 100,000 pikeminnow

Since May 1, anglers participating in the pikeminnow sport-reward fishery program have caught thousands of pikeminnow from the Columbia and Snake rivers, saving endangered salmon and steelhead.

Hundreds of fishermen signed up to compete in the program this season. By early August, the top angler earned more than \$36,000. The season ends Sept. 30.

The program pays registered anglers \$4 to \$8 for fish nine inches or longer. The more fish an angler catches, the more each is worth. Last year the top fisherman in the program earned more than \$80,000 in just five months of fishing.

Northern pikeminnow are voracious eaters, consuming millions of young salmon and steelhead each year. Research shows reducing pikeminnow numbers helps to increase salmon and steelhead populations.

For information, go to [www.pikeminnow.org](http://www.pikeminnow.org).



BPA uses helicopters to inspect its transmission system, which includes more than 15,000 circuit miles of transmission line. The agency recently won a DOE award for its aviation program.

## Escalating break-ins risk outages, lives

BPA is asking the public to watch for suspicious activity around electrical substations after five break-ins in the last month have caused more than \$16,000 in damage. The thefts have targeted metal wiring and equipment, risking power outages in nearby communities. Tampering with electrical equipment is also extremely dangerous. Some culprits in past break-ins have been electrocuted.

"Not only are the thieves risking their lives to steal metal from our substations, they are damaging the electrical infrastructure that keeps our lights on," said Mike Hansen, BPA spokesman. "Also, the costs associated with these thefts are ultimately paid by electricity consumers."

The recent string of five substation break-ins is raising concerns about the escalating costs and impacts of the crimes to the power system. One substation in Tacoma has been hit three times within two months. Other utilities in the region have also been affected by similar incidents.

Through its Crime Witness Program, BPA offers up to \$25,000 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of individuals committing crimes against BPA facilities and infrastructure. Anyone having information is asked to call BPA's confidential and toll-free Crime Witness Hotline at 800-437-2744. Tips can also be provided to local law enforcement agencies.

## AGENCY PROJECTS

### Strategic capital discussions [Regionwide]

BPA will host a series of meetings in September to discuss long-term capital investments and the capital needed to fund those investments. Discussion material will be published prior to the meetings. If you have questions, contact Mary Hawken at 503-230-3421, or your Power or Transmission Customer Account Executive, Tribal Account Executive or Constituent Account Executive. Additional details are available at [www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/Debt\\_Management/presentations/access-to-capital.cfm](http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/Debt_Management/presentations/access-to-capital.cfm).

## POWER – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

### Albeni Falls winter operations [Bonner County, Idaho]

The public comment period on the Albeni Falls Dam draft Environmental Assessment has been extended 15 days. The last day to comment on the draft EA is now Sept. 13, 2011. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and BPA extended the comment period due to the level of interest in the project and to ensure all parties have adequate time to prepare their comments. For more information about the proposed flexible winter power operations at Albeni Falls Dam, or to view the draft EA, go to <http://bit.ly/n0a0wx>. To comment on the EA or view comments that have been submitted, visit [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment) or call 800-622-4519. Comments can also be mailed to Albeni Falls Winter Power Operations, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, Ore., 97293-4428, or faxed to 503-230-4019.

### Proposed CFAC power sales agreement [Regionwide]

BPA held a public meeting and accepted public comment through Aug. 31 on a proposed power sales agreement between BPA and the Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. BPA is reviewing the comments received and expects to make a decision on the agreement by late November. Under this agreement, BPA would sell 140 average megawatts to CFAC starting April 1, 2012, which could allow CFAC to operate two of five potlines at the Columbia Falls, Mont., smelter. BPA is reviewing this proposal in light of its Direct Service Industry Options EIS and is preparing a Supplement Analysis pursuant to our NEPA regulations, expected fall 2011. The draft agreement is at [www.bpa.gov/go/cfacpowersales](http://www.bpa.gov/go/cfacpowersales). The DSIO EIS is at [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Direct\\_Service\\_Industry\\_Options/](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Direct_Service_Industry_Options/).

## FISH AND WILDLIFE – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

### Kalispel Memorandum of Understanding [Pend Oreille County, Wash.]

BPA accepted comments through Aug. 1 on a proposal to enter into a 10-year funding commitment with the Kalispel Tribe for fish and wildlife mitigation projects. For information, go to [www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Kalispel\\_MOA/](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Kalispel_MOA/).

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

BPA released a draft EIS in June and accepted comments through Aug. 22. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/midcolumbiacoho](http://www.bpa.gov/go/midcolumbiacoho).

### Springfield Sockeye Hatchery Project [Bingham County, Idaho]

BPA is preparing a Supplement Analysis on the proposed Springfield Sockeye Hatchery Project. For information, go to [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Springfield\\_Sockeye\\_Hatchery/](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Springfield_Sockeye_Hatchery/).

### Klickitat Hatchery Program [Klickitat and Yakima counties, Wash.]

BPA released a draft EIS July 28 and held a public meeting Aug. 10 in Lyle, Wash. The comment period has been extended through Oct. 10. For more 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/).

### 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/).

## TRANSMISSION – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

### Regional Network Open Season and Generation Interconnection Reform [Regionwide]

Following a public scoping meeting July 20, BPA invited stakeholders to submit feedback and initial comments on Network Open Season and Generation Interconnection reform by Aug. 10. The NOS and GI project team is following up on those comments in focus group meetings with customers. The feedback and results from these meetings will help inform the agenda for a follow-up workshop, to be held the week of Oct. 3. Meeting details will be provided in September.

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

BPA expects to publish its final ROD in September on a proposed new 500-kilovolt transmission line between BPA's existing Big Eddy Substation in The Dalles, Ore., and a new proposed substation (Knight) under an existing BPA line near Goldendale, Wash. For information or to view or request a hard copy of the final EIS, issued July 15, 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/).

### Lund Hill Wind Interconnection Project [Klickitat County, Wash.]

BPA accepted comments through Aug. 26 on a request from Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., to interconnect up to 60 megawatts from the proposed Lund Hill Wind Project. To interconnect the project, BPA would build a new substation, the Wood Creek Substation, along an existing BPA transmission line near Roosevelt, Wash. BPA will complete a ROD in fall or winter 2011. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/lundhillwind](http://www.bpa.gov/go/lundhillwind).

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

For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/coulee](http://www.bpa.gov/go/coulee).

### 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, in Troutdale, Ore. A draft EIS is scheduled for fall 2011 followed by a formal comment period. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/i5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/i5).

### Creston-Bell Transmission Line Rebuild [Lincoln and Spokane counties, Wash.]

BPA is proposing to rebuild approximately 54 miles of 115-kilovolt wood pole transmission line. For information, go to [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Creston\\_Bell/](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Creston_Bell/).

## **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. A draft EIS is expected in summer 2011. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/albany-eugene](http://www.bpa.gov/go/albany-eugene).

## **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. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/hoopersprings](http://www.bpa.gov/go/hoopersprings).

## **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, the Wood Creek Substation, along an existing BPA transmission line near Roosevelt, Wash. BPA will complete a ROD in fall or winter 2011. For information, go to [www.bpa.gov/go/junipercanyonII](http://www.bpa.gov/go/junipercanyonII).

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

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, Washington]**

BPA and Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council are planning to release a final EIS this summer 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.]**

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.]**

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**

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

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/).

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

BPA released a FONSI in May and decided to proceed with the project. Construction started in May and will be complete in fall or winter 2011.

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/).

### **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.

### **Strategic Capital Discussions**

- **Sept. 19–22**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., BPA Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Ore.

### **CLOSE OF COMMENT**

- **Sept. 13**, Albeni Falls winter operations
- **Oct. 10**, Klickitat Hatchery 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.

