

Journal

October 2011

New power line creates jobs

BPA will build a new high-voltage power line that will provide up to 100 new construction-related jobs and help BPA move energy from east of the Cascade Mountains to population centers west of the Cascades.

The 500-kilovolt transmission line will run 28 miles from BPA's Big Eddy Substation near The Dalles, Ore., to a new substation four miles northwest of Goldendale, Wash., and is called the Big Eddy-Knight line. Construction started in September.

"Upgrading BPA's transmission system will not only create up to 100 construction jobs, it will strengthen BPA's ability to handle further expansion of wind energy and other renewable energy projects in the region," said Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden. "This project is a good example of how economic stimulus funding is being invested in real jobs, to build real infrastructure that supports real economic growth in the region."



BPA anticipates the lead construction contractor will hire electricians, carpenters, welders, line crews and other skilled trades people from The Dalles and other communities in Oregon and Washington. The project will cost approximately \$185 million and is financed in part with borrowing authority included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act — more commonly referred to as the Recovery Act.

The decision to build the line culminates a public process that began in June 2009 and incorporated hundreds of comments from tribes; landowners; concerned citizens; interest groups; and local, state and federal government agencies.

For more information, go to http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Big_Eddy-Knight/.

New contracts secure clean power, encourage conservation

Landmark power contracts that take effect Oct. 1 institute a new price structure through 2028 for hydroelectric power from federal dams, encouraging Northwest public utilities and the public to make the most of the clean, affordable energy.

The Regional Dialogue contracts between public utilities and BPA secure low rates for the hydropower that helps drive the Northwest economy. The contracts also provide for reliable long-term funding for energy efficiency, protection of fish and wildlife and maintenance of the power system.

The primary change under the contracts is that consumer-owned utilities purchasing electricity at cost from BPA pay one rate for a defined share of energy from the Federal Columbia River Power System, which includes 31 federal dams and the region's nuclear plant. Utilities that need additional electricity to meet increased demand can pursue it on their own or purchase it from BPA at a higher rate reflecting BPA's cost of acquiring the additional power.

Setting apart electricity from the federal system under one cost-based rate highlights the economic value of the energy and the system that produces it. The price



structure also encourages utilities to stretch the electricity as far as possible through energy efficiency and conservation before turning to other, often costlier sources of power.

See “The Value of the River”

BPA has produced seven educational videos about the Pacific Northwest’s greatest national treasure — the Columbia River. The “Value of the River” series is available on BPA’s education website at www.bpa.gov/corporate/education/.

Each video explores a major focus area for BPA and its agency partners: hydropower; transmission; environmental stewardship; fish; renewables; irrigation, navigation, flood control and recreation; and energy efficiency. BPA worked closely with its partners at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and NOAA Fisheries to develop the videos.

“The series was developed because we needed educational materials for employees to use in the classroom,” explains Cheri Benson of BPA Public Affairs, who came up with the concept for the videos and managed their production. “We also wanted to meet the needs of teachers who want information on the hydropower and transmission system.”

The series features footage of the river, landscapes and people of the Northwest. Teachers can use these videos as a starting point for a classroom discussion or download them for in-class use. Each video also includes supporting materials and links to explore topics in greater depth. The videos target middle school children but are written to be accessible to any age group.

BPA announces EE funding opportunity

BPA is seeking applications from its customer utilities for innovative behavior-based energy efficiency pilot programs. An example of a behavior-based program is giving residential end-users information about their energy use, goals, rewards and other tactics to encourage efficiency.

BPA’s goal is to increase the amount and persistence of energy savings achieved through behavior-based programs in the Northwest. Applications are due Nov. 7. BPA expects to make award decisions in January 2012. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/behavior.cfm.

Hispanic Chamber honors BPA with BRAVO award

BPA received the BRAVO award for its partnership with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at the chamber’s Hispanic Heritage Celebration and Recognition Event in September. The BRAVO award recognizes organizations that support the chamber’s efforts to advance Latinos in Oregon and southwest Washington.

BPA was recognized for partnering with the Hispanic Chamber since 2005 by supporting the Latino Leadership Development Program, providing educational opportunities for Latino students, encouraging Latinos to consider “BPA as an employer of choice” and participating in the chamber’s vendor and small business expos.

Watch us work

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

- **Cutting trees warms residents in need.** BPA cut down trees near Salem, Ore., to protect power lines. The Public Works Department donated the wood to a Marion County Juvenile Department program that distributes firewood to low-income and disabled county residents.
- **A Yakama land acquisition revived the wapato root.** In the 1990s, BPA helped the Yakama Tribe purchase 440-acres on Toppenish Creek as a wetland restoration project for fish and wildlife. Now, members of the tribe are harvesting wapato root, a traditional tribal food that had been absent from their culture for 70 years.
- **Linemen learn to fly to save one another.** For the first time, all BPA linemen have been trained to perform helicopter rescue – a potentially life-saving skill for crews who often work in remote locations up high on transmission lines
- **Job Corps and BPA partner to protect power lines.** Teens from the Anaconda Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center in Montana gained practical employment skills by building gates BPA will use to protect its rights-of-way.

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

Public Involvement [Updates & Notices]

AGENCY PROJECTS

Quarterly Business Review [Regionwide]

BPA will hold its Quarterly Business Review Nov. 1. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/corporate/finance/ibr/qbr. [SEE CALENDAR.]

Strategic Capital Discussions [Regionwide]

BPA is hosting an Oct. 25 follow-up to the September discussions on long-term capital investments and the capital needed to fund those investments. These discussions will help BPA formulate a long-term direction to ensure BPA's continued access to Treasury borrowing authority. For more information and meeting materials, go to www.bpa.gov/corporate/Finance/FinancePublicProcesses/2011CapitalStratDisc.cfm. [SEE CALENDAR.]

POWER – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

Albeni Falls winter operations [Bonner County, Idaho]

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and BPA are considering comments received on the Albeni Falls Dam draft EA. For information about the proposed flexible winter power operations at Albeni Falls Dam or to view the draft EA, go to <http://bit.ly/n0a0wx>.

Proposed CFAC power sales agreement [Regionwide]

BPA is reviewing comments on the proposed power sales agreement between BPA and the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company. Under the 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 NEPA regulations. The SA is expected in late October. The draft agreement is at www.bpa.gov/go/cfacpowersales. The DSIO EIS is at http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Direct_Service_Industry_Options/.

FISH AND WILDLIFE – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

Kootenai River Native Fish Aquaculture Program [Boundary County, Idaho]

The Kootenai Tribe of Idaho is proposing to expand an existing white sturgeon and burbot hatchery facility near Bonners Ferry, Idaho. A 30 day public comment period will open Oct 7. For details, check the BPA comment web page on or after Oct. 7, www.bpa.gov/comment.

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

The Kalispel Tribe and the three federal action agencies are proposing to enter a 10-year Memorandum of Agreement for fish and wildlife mitigation projects. For information, go to www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Kalispel_MOA/.

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

BPA is preparing a Final EIS. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/go/midcolumbiacoho.

Springfield Sockeye Hatchery Project [Bingham County, Idaho]

BPA is preparing a Supplement Analysis. For information, go to http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Springfield_Sockeye_Hatchery/.

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

BPA is accepting comments through Oct. 10. For more information, go to 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/.

TRANSMISSION – PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

Network Open Season and Generation Interconnection Reform [Regionwide]

BPA is refining proposals for improving its precedent transmission service agreement processes. The agency will present a refined financial impact analysis and present revised and updated options to stakeholders at the next public workshop in October. [SEE CALENDAR.]

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.

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

BPA is deciding whether 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.

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

For information, go to www.bpa.gov/go/coulee.

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/.

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 will be issued in fall 2011. For information, go to 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.

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

BPA is deciding whether 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.

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

For information, go to 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.

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/.

Antelope Mountain Communication Project [Deschutes County, Ore.]

For information, go to 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.

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/.

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

For information, go to www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Lyle_Falls/.

TRANSMISSION – PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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

BPA decided to build the new 500-kilovolt transmission line between BPA's existing Big Eddy Substation in The Dalles, Ore., and a new substation (Knight) near Goldendale, Wash. Initial construction activities began in September. BPA will hold open house meetings in October to answer questions about this project. For information or to view or request environmental documents, go to www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Big_Eddy-Knight/.
[SEE CALENDAR].

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/.

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

For information, go to 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/.

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.

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/.

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/.

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

For information, go to 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. For Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, please call toll free 800-622-4519.

Big Eddy-Knight open house meetings

- **Oct. 4**, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Shilo Inn Suites Hotel, 3223 Bret Clodfelter Way, The Dalles, Ore.
- **Oct. 5**, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Goldendale High School, 525 E. Simcoe Drive, Goldendale, Wash.

PTSA reform stakeholder meeting:

- **Oct. 12**, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., BPA Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland, Ore.

Strategic Capital Discussion:

- **Oct. 25**, 1 to 4 p.m., BPA Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland, Ore.

Quarterly Business Review:

(Note: Meeting time may change. Check the BPA website for current details).

- **Nov. 1**, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., BPA Rates Hearing Room, 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland, Ore.

CLOSE OF COMMENT

- **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. BPA home page: 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. 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.

