

## **Department of Energy**

Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 61409 Vancouver, WA 98666-1409

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

February 15, 2010

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-3

## **To: Parties Interested in the Central Ferry-Lower Monumental 500-kilovolt Transmission Line Project**

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has completed the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Central Ferry-Lower Monumental Transmission Line Project in Garfield, Columbia and Walla Walla counties, Washington. The final EIS describes the proposed project and the environmental effects expected from construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line. The project is needed to increase the electrical capacity of our transmission system in response to requests for transmission service in this area.

Last July, BPA released the draft EIS and asked for your comments. We also held a public meeting on July 21, 2010 in Dayton, Washington. Copies of all comments we received on the draft EIS, our written responses to those comments and the changes made to the document are included in a Comment-Response Addendum for the EIS. This Addendum, together with the draft EIS, constitutes the final EIS.

## Schedule

With the final EIS complete, we will next produce a Record of Decision (ROD) that documents BPA's decision about whether to proceed with the project and, if so, which alternative was selected. BPA expects to issue its ROD by the end of March 2011.

If BPA decides to build the project, construction activities could begin in summer 2011 after all necessary permits and approvals are obtained, and conclude by summer 2013.

## For more information

If you asked to receive a copy of the NEPA documentation for the project, the Comment-Response Addendum is enclosed. If you would like to receive a hard copy or a compact disc with an electronic copy of the document, please call our toll-free document request line at (800) 622-4520. Please leave a message with the project name and your complete mailing address. If you received the Comment-Response Addendum, you will also receive the ROD when it is completed unless you request otherwise. Additional project information is available on the project website at www.bpa.gov/go/centralferrylomo.

If you have questions, please call us toll-free at (800) 622-4519 or e-mail me at <u>tmberry@bpa.gov</u>. Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Theresa M. Berry

Theresa M. Berry Project Manager

Enclosure: Comment-Response Addendum (if requested)