

Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

March 15, 2019

In reply refer to: TEP-CSB-2

To: People interested in the Glass Butte Radio Station

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the Glass Butte Radio Station and has made a decision to construct the facility. This letter describes BPA's decision, the construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

Back ground: BPA plans to build a radio station on Glass Butte, located on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Prineville District Office. The station will include installation of a new radio tower, building, and digital communications equipment on a 0.5-acre site. In addition, BPA will acquire two beam path easements and access road rights, will upgrade existing access roads, and will install underground conduit for fiber and power services to the site. The Glass Butte facility will help BPA's replacement of aging analog communications equipment.

BLM prepared an environmental assessment (EA), in cooperation with BPA, to help determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BLM released the EA for public review and comment in August 2017 and received comments from two entities. BLM's implementing decision, completed in April 2018, provides responses to those comments and determined that no revisions to the EA were necessary. BLM granted BPA a right-of-way for the facility on January 29, 2019.

Decision: Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the project will not cause significant impacts and has issued a FONSI. BPA will start construction of the Glass Butte Radio Station in summer 2019 and will continue through fall 2020, with breaks in construction during seasonal restrictions.

Copies Available: The FONSI is available on BPA's website at <u>www.bpa.gov/goto/GlassButte</u>. If you would like to obtain paper copies of the FONSI, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520; leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address.

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact the Environmental Protection Specialist, Doug Corkran toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-7646 or by e-mail at <u>dfcorkran@bpa.gov</u>.

If you have other questions or would like more project information, please call me at the toll-free number listed above, directly at 360 619-6683, or by e-mail at <u>vcmajors@bpa.gov</u>.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Vincent C. Majors</u> Vincent C. Majors Transmission Project Manager