

Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

March 16, 2020

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People Interested in the Holcomb-Naselle Transmission Line Rebuild Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Holcomb-Naselle Transmission Line Rebuild Project. Based on the final EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and made a decision to proceed with the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the estimated construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

Background: BPA will rebuild the 21-mile-long Holcomb-Naselle 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line located in Pacific and Wahkiakum counties, Washington. The project will allow BPA to operate the transmission line at full capacity during times of high electrical load ensuring power delivery to BPA's customers in the Pacific County area of Washington.

BPA prepared an EA to help the agency determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BPA released the draft EA for public review and comment in August 2019 and received comments from three entities. The final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA found that the project will not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Decision: BPA decided to construct the Holcomb-Naselle Transmission Line Rebuild Project. Project construction is expected to begin in April 2020 and continue through October 2020, with breaks in construction during seasonal restrictions and for other planned work. Any work not completed in 2020 will be finished by September 2021.

Copies Available: The final EA, FONSI, and mitigation action plan are available on BPA's website at *http://www.bpa.gov/goto/HolcombNaselleRebuild*. If you previously requested a copy of the documents, they are enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of any of these documents, 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, Tish Eaton, toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-3469, or by e-mail at *tkeaton@bpa.gov.*

If you have other questions or would like more project information, please call me at the toll-free number listed above, directly at 360-619-6634, or by e-mail at <u>amloran@bpa.gov</u>.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely, Amanda Milliams

Amanda Williams Transmission Project Manager

Enclosures (if requested): Final EA FONSI/Mitigation Action Plan