



Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

June 30, 2015

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People Interested in the Whistling Ridge Energy Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a Record of Decision (ROD) and Supplement Analysis (SA) for the electrical interconnection of the Whistling Ridge Energy Project. This letter describes BPA's decision, how to obtain copies of documents, and how to contact us if you have questions. If you requested a copy of project documents, the SA and ROD are enclosed.

Decision: BPA has decided to offer Whistling Ridge Energy LLC (WRE) contract terms for interconnection of WRE's Whistling Ridge Energy Project (Wind Project) with the Federal Columbia River Transmission System (FCRTS). WRE's Wind Project has been approved for construction and operation by the Governor of the State of Washington, based on the recommendation of the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC), which is the siting authority for the Wind Project. Washington EFSEC and BPA jointly prepared the Whistling Ridge Energy Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (DOE/EIS-0419, August 2011) to review the potential environmental effects of WRE's Wind Project as well as the interconnection to the FCRTS.

To allow the interconnection of WRE's Wind Project to the FCRTS, BPA will construct and operate a new 230-kilovolt (kV) substation and associated facilities that will connect the Wind Project to BPA's existing North Bonneville-Midway 230-kV transmission line, which passes through the southern portion of the Wind Project site. The BPA interconnection facilities will be located entirely within the boundaries of the Wind Project site. BPA also will execute a Large Generation Interconnection Agreement (LGIA) with WRE to provide interconnection services for the Wind Project. The ROD explains the factors that were considered in reaching the decision. A Mitigation Action Plan identifies mitigation measures that will be used to avoid or reduce environmental impacts.

In support of this decision, BPA completed an SA on June 15, 2015. The SA assessed whether there have been substantial changes to the Project or significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns since completion of the Final EIS for the Project. The SA found that there have been no such changes, circumstances, or information and that further environmental documentation thus is not required.

For More Information: The ROD and EIS documents, including the SA, are available on BPA's website: www.bpa.gov/goto/Whistling. If you would like hard copies of these documents, you may call our toll-free document request line at (800) 622-4520 and leave a message with the name of the project and your complete mailing address. If you have questions about this project, you may contact me toll free at (800) 282-3713 or by email at amgardner@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amy Gardner

Transmission Project Manager

Enclosures: (if requested)

Supplement Analysis

Record of Decision

Mitigation Action Plan