500 kV Spare Transformer Procurement

The 500 kV Spare Transformer Procurement capital project is for the acquisition of five, 500 kV spare transformers, which are to be strategically located throughout the system, and for the relocation of two existing transformers to key locations that are scheduled to be replaced later this year. BPA currently has 105, 500 kV single-phase transformers or 35 banks in service that these spares will backup.

This project will reduce the risk of a 500 kV transformer failure having a significant impact on the operational reliability of the main grid. Strategic placement of the spares, along with other proposed substation modifications, will reduce outage duration to 24 hours after a failure at the proposed substations. This sparing strategy also mitigates the risk of multiple failures and will further ensure that Transmission continues to provide reliable and available transmission grid.