



## Bonneville Power Administration I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project Outreach Events Summary – Summer 2012

BPA and consulting staff traveled to six fairs and festivals throughout Southwest Washington to conduct 16 days of public outreach for the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project between the months of June and September 2012. The purpose of these outreach events was to provide updates and answer questions about the project and to provide information about the upcoming draft environmental impact statement comment period. Staff engaged over 730 members of the public through information booths that included a traveling display, project maps, cards with the project web address and phone number, instructions for accessing the online interactive map, comment forms, map request forms, and a mailing list sign-up sheet. Below is a summary of the events attended and the number of people engaged. The materials used at the information booth are included in the appendix.

### Number of People Engaged by Event

Event	Days	Number of people engaged
Vancouver Farmers Market	4	218
Amboy Territorial Days	3	109
4th Plain International Festival	1	48
Castle Rock Fair	3	35
Battle Ground Harvest Days	3	71
Camas Days	2	257
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>738</b>

#### **Vancouver Farmers Market: June 24, July 7, Aug 19, Sep 1, 2012**

The West Alternative travels along BPA's existing right-of-way through Vancouver, the largest population center in the project area. The Vancouver Farmers Market is a well-attended event and an excellent opportunity to engage with area residents who are less familiar with this project. Many booth attendees shared that they have heard of the project either through yard signs, newspaper articles, or local newsletters and are interested to learn more.

#### **Amboy Territorial Days: July 13-15, 2012**

Amboy is located in rural, northern Clark County near the Crossover, Central, and East route alternatives. Many attendees expressed a preference for the West Alternative and building the project within BPA's existing right-of-way. This is the second year that BPA has conducted outreach at this event.



#### **Fourth Plain International Festival: July 14, 2012**

The Fourth Plain International Festival is located near the West Alternative and BPA's existing right-of-way in Vancouver. Most attendees were interested in learning about how the project may affect property values, tax rates, and whether there are health risks associated with electric and magnetic fields (EMF).

#### **Castle Rock Fair: July 19-21, 2012**

Castle Rock is the closest population center to the proposed Casey Road, Baxter Road, and Monahan Creek substation sites and the beginning of the proposed transmission line. Although the Castle Rock Fair booth had low attendance, staff provided valuable information and assistance to many attendees. Several people expressed concern about the potential health impacts related to EMF near substations and transmission lines.

#### **Battle Ground Harvest Days: July 20-22, 2012**

This is the first year that the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project hosted an information booth at Battle Ground Harvest Days. Although Battle Ground itself would not be directly affected by the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project, it serves as a population center and provides services to people who live within more rural parts of the project area. Similar to attendees at Amboy Territorial Days, many booth visitors expressed a preference for the West Alternative.

#### **Camas Days: July 27-28, 2012**

All four of the proposed alternatives converge onto BPA's existing right-of-way through Camas before crossing the Columbia River to Troutdale. The Camas Days Festival was highly attended by area residents and project staff engaged more than twice the number of people than the previous year. The increased engagement could be attributed to an article in the Camas-Washougal Post-Record detailing city officials' comments on the project published a few days prior to the event. Some booth visitors expressed frustration that the four proposed alternatives are all routed through Camas. In addition, some attendees expressed a preference for burying the transmission line. The information booth provided an opportunity for the public to ask follow-up questions related to the recent article.



John Tyler, BPA employee, explains project area map at the 2012 Amboy Territorial Days (left). BPA I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project information booth and materials on display (right).



Project staff heard the following questions and comments over the course of the summer.

**General comments:**

- Many people wanted to know where the proposed route alternatives are in relation to their homes or well known locations.
- Many people were pleased to see that BPA is conducting community outreach for the project at local events.
- Several attendees inquired why the draft EIS has been delayed.
- Is there any new information available from BPA since the last newsletter?
- How will the project be funded?
- When will BPA determine and release the preferred alternative?
- When would the project be constructed?

**Purpose:**

- Several attendees expressed support for building new energy infrastructure because of growth in the project area and the ubiquitous use of electricity.
- Some attendees did not have a clear understanding of how the project relates to them and BPA's role as a regional power marketer.
- Some attendees expressed a belief that energy consumption is not increasing in the project area and that the project is not needed.
- Some attendees related the belief that electricity demand in Oregon and California are driving the need for the project, not growth in Clark and Cowlitz Counties.

**Design:**

- How tall would the new towers be?
- Is the project being routed along I-5?
- Why not route the project through Oregon?
- Why is BPA considering alternatives beyond using their existing right-of-way?
- Is there a minimum distance that the line must be from homes and schools?
- The East alternative should be chosen because it would affect the smallest number of people.
- The West alternative should be chosen because BPA already owns the right-of-way.
- Many attendees wanted to know if BPA is considering placing all or a portion of the new line underground.

**Impacts:**

- Several attendees were concerned that the project would have a negative effect on property and home values.
- Some attendees were concerned about potential health effects related to EMF.
- Some attendees had concerns about visual impacts the project may have on property aesthetics or viewsheds.
- How will the project affect electricity rates? Tax rates?
- Which alternative has the most environmental impacts?
- Which alternative affects the smallest number of people?





# Bonneville Power Administration I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project Outreach Events Summary – Summer 2012

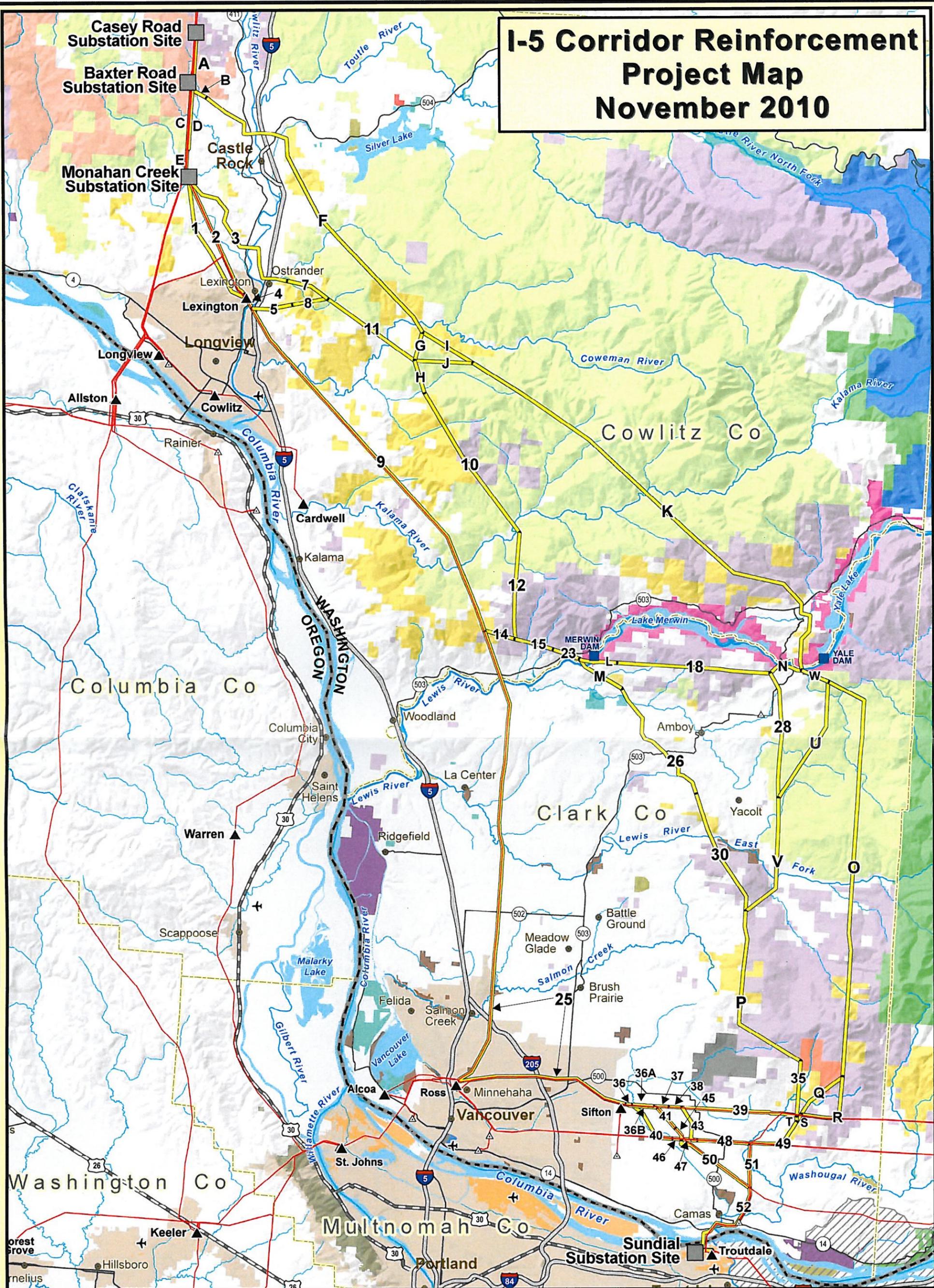
## Appendix

Copies of materials available at the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project information booth are included in this appendix starting on the next page.



# I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project Map

## November 2010



- Proposed New Substation Sites
- Proposed Route Segments
- BPA Substation
- Non-BPA Substation
- BPA Transmission Line
- Airport
- City or Town
- Urban Area
- County Boundary
- State Boundary
- Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area

- Land Ownership**
- US Forest Service
  - National Park Service
  - US Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - US Dept. of Defense
  - WA State Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
  - WA State Parks and Rec. Commission
  - County Government

- City of Camas Watershed
- WA Dept. of Natural Resources
- Longview Timber Corp.
- PacifiCorp
- Sierra Pacific Holding Co.
- Weyerhaeuser Company
- Port of Portland
- Forest Park

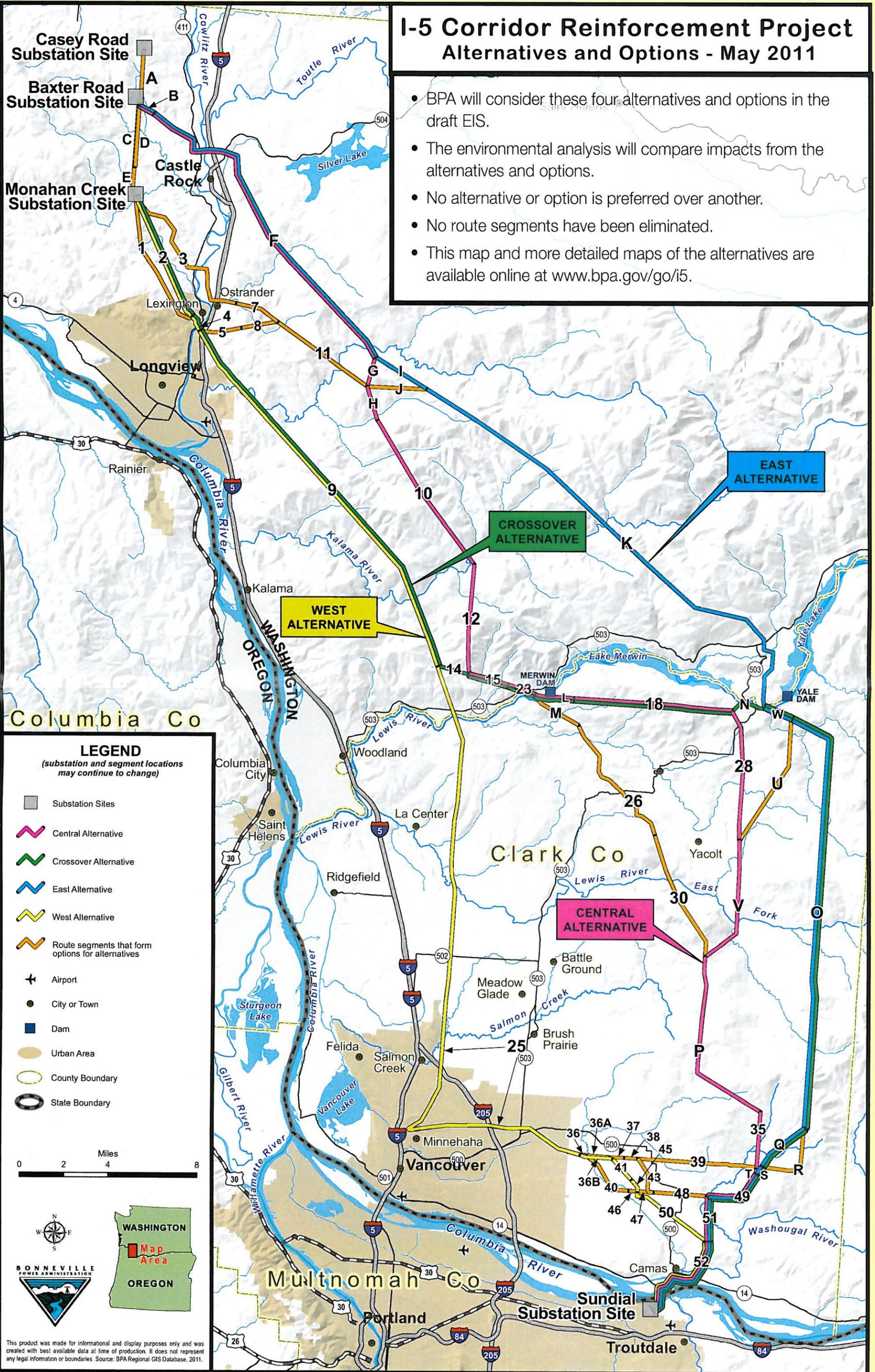


0 3.75 7.5 15 Miles

This product was made for informational and display purposes only and was created with best available data at time of production. It does not represent any legal information or boundaries. Source: BPA Regional GIS Database, 2010.

# I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project Alternatives and Options - May 2011

- BPA will consider these four alternatives and options in the draft EIS.
- The environmental analysis will compare impacts from the alternatives and options.
- No alternative or option is preferred over another.
- No route segments have been eliminated.
- This map and more detailed maps of the alternatives are available online at [www.bpa.gov/go/i5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/i5).



## LEGEND

(substation and segment locations may continue to change)

- Substation Sites
- Central Alternative
- Crossover Alternative
- East Alternative
- West Alternative
- Route segments that form options for alternatives
- Airport
- City or Town
- Dam
- Urban Area
- County Boundary
- State Boundary



This product was made for informational and display purposes only and was created with best available data at time of production. It does not represent any legal information or boundaries. Source: BPA Regional GIS Database, 2011.

Thank you for your interest in BPA's proposed I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project.

[www.bpa.gov/go/i5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/i5)

Comment & help line:  
800-230-6593



## I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project

# Guide to finding your property online

### Step 1:

From the project website [www.bpa.gov/go/i5](http://www.bpa.gov/go/i5), select Interactive Map under "News and highlights" on the right side of the page.

The screenshot shows the BPA website's project page. The header includes 'BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION' and 'BPA'. The main content area has a 'Project Update' article titled 'I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project Update'. The right sidebar contains a section titled 'I-5 Corridor Reinforcement' with a sub-section 'News and highlights' where the 'Interactive Map' link is circled in blue. Other links in the sidebar include 'Sign up for Project Updates', 'Map of alternatives and options', and 'Interactive Map'.

### Step 2:

Select the option to "search" at the top right corner of the map page.

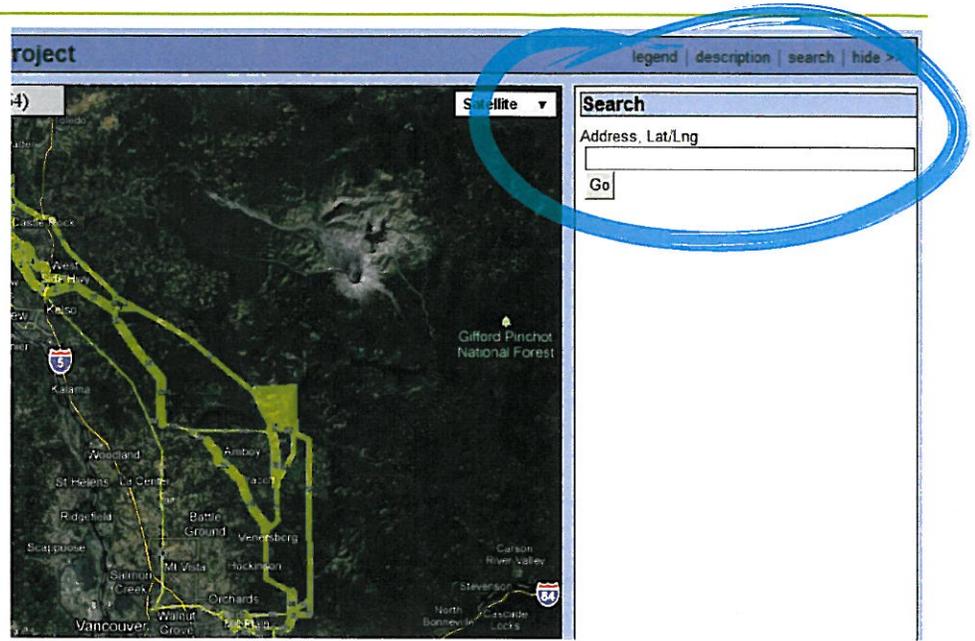
<http://gis.bpa.gov/gis/i5/gmviewer.html>

The screenshot shows the GIS viewer interface. The top right corner of the map viewer has a search bar with a 'search' button circled in blue. The legend on the right side of the map lists various project elements: Proposed tower locations where segments meet, Proposed tower locations, Proposed line segments, Proposed substation sites, Property boundaries, Notification buffers, and Access Roads.



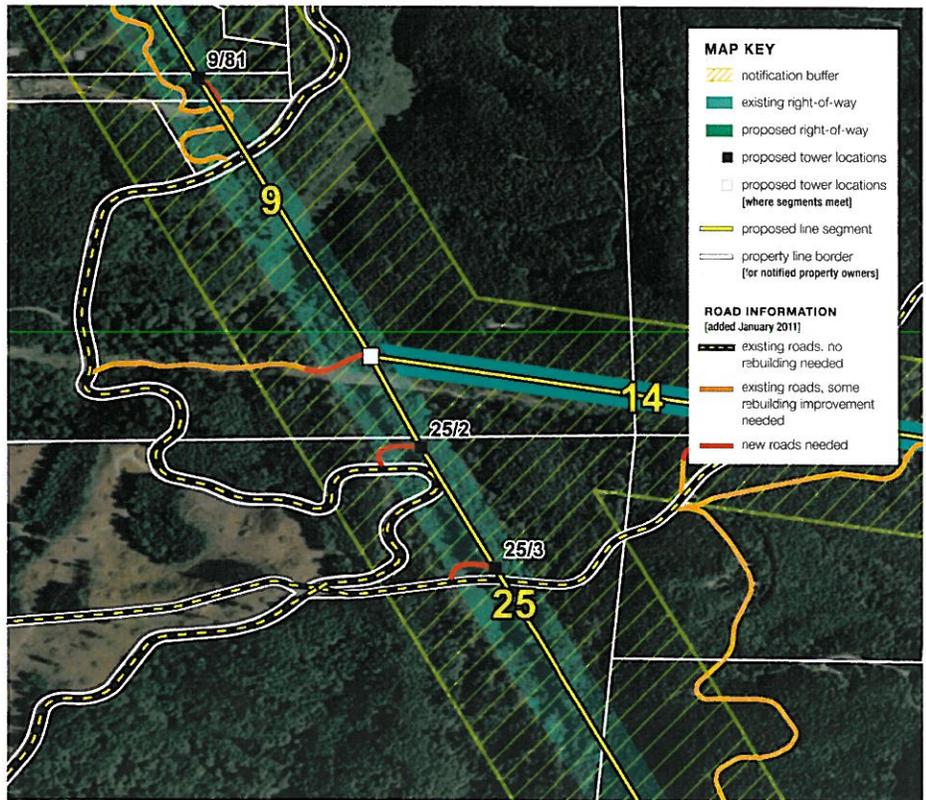
### Step 3:

Enter your address, or nearest crossroads in the empty field and press “Go.”



### Step 4:

The map should zoom in to your property and allow you to see what BPA is proposing with alternatives near you. Use the tools on the top left corner of the map to zoom in and out of the area displayed or you may drag the map to an area you would like to view.





## BPA I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project – Map Request Form

Please complete and return this map request form to a BPA representative to be processed.

Name	Physical Address of Parcel
	If no physical address is available, please provide the nearest cross street or intersection or additional information that may assist BPA in locating your property.
<b>E-mail Address &amp; Phone Number</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>	

The reverse side of this sheet provides an explanation of the features that you will see on your personalized map.

You may submit comments on the project by:

- Mail** I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project  
PO Box 9250  
Portland, OR 97207
- Voicemail** 1-800-230-6593
- Fax** 1- 888-315-4503
- Online** <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/i-5-eis/ecomment.cfm>



## Understanding Project Maps

The descriptions and map example below detail the elements included on the project map.

**Notification buffer:** The original study area shaded in yellow cross-hatch shows where a transmission line could possibly be sited. This buffer allowed BPA to identify land parcels, whose owners were added to the project mail list. Although preliminary tower locations and subsequent rights-of-way have been identified, this buffer area is still under consideration to accommodate future design changes as they occur.

**Parcels:** Individual property parcels are outlined in white.

**Right-of-way:** Most 500-kilovolt transmission lines and towers require 150 feet of right-of-way and must be accessible for construction and maintenance. This is represented by green on the maps. A darker green indicates areas where BPA might need to purchase land or easements. Lighter green shows existing right-of-way.

**Towers:** Preliminary locations for transmission towers, which average about 150 feet tall, are marked by black or white squares on the maps.

**Property location** : If you provided us with your property address when requesting a print map, the location will be marked with a red map pin icon.

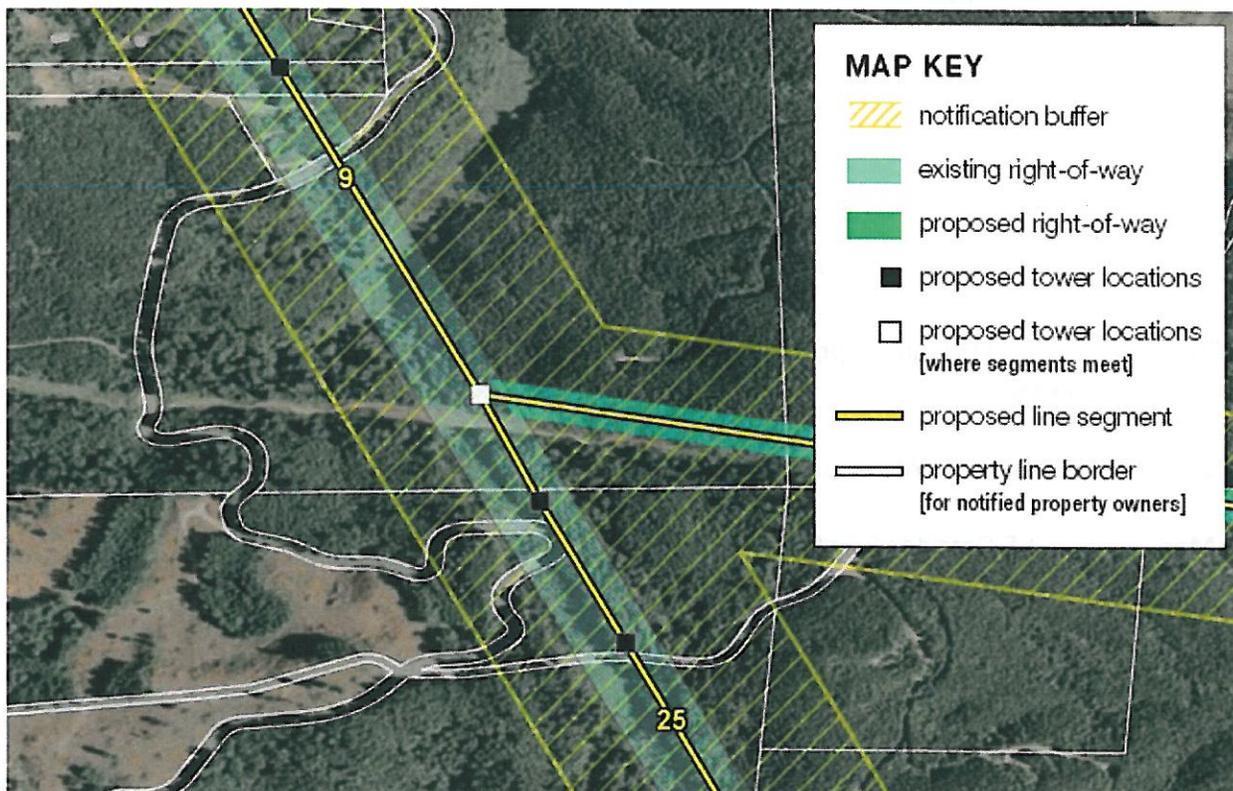


Figure 1: Illustrative example of project map and map key along segments 9 and 25.



