

**Albany-Burnt Woods and Santiam-Toledo
Pole Replacement Project**

**Revision Sheet for the Environmental Assessment
Finding of No Significant Impact
Mitigation Action Plan**

DOE/EA-1636
Bonneville Power Administration

May 2009

Revision Sheet
for the
Albany-Burnt Woods and Santiam-Toledo Pole Replacement Project
Final Environmental Assessment
DOE/EA -1636

Summary

This revision sheet documents the changes to be incorporated into the Albany-Burnt Woods and Santiam-Toledo Pole Replacement Project Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA). With the addition of these changes, the Preliminary EA will not be reprinted and will serve as the Final EA.

On March 20, 2009, the Preliminary EA was sent to agencies and interested parties. Notification that the EA was available and how to request a copy was sent to all others on the mailing list of potentially affected parties. Comments on the Preliminary EA were accepted until April 13, 2009. Two individuals commented or asked questions about the project. Please see the **Public Comments** section for the comments and responses to those comments.

Revisions to the EA

There are no significant changes to the EA.

The following table has been added as Table 3-10a on page 3-49 of the EA to provide additional information on magnetic field levels at distances of 100, 200, and 300 feet from the edge of the project corridor right-of-way, at the request of one of the commenters on the Preliminary EA.

Table 3-10a: Project Corridor Magnetic Field at Various Distances from the Right-of-Way (ROW) Edge* (milligauss, based on annual 2008 line load statistics)

| ROW Section Description | | 300' from South ROW edge (mg) | | 200' from South ROW edge (mg) | | 100' from South ROW edge (mg) | |
|--|---------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| | | Annual Average | Annual Peak | Annual Average | Annual Peak | Annual Average | Annual Peak |
| ROW Section A: | | | | | | | |
| 200 ft. ROW with 3 Lines - Albany-BurntWoods 115-kV, Salem-Albany No.2 115-kV, Salem-Albany No.1 115-kV. | Before Action | < 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1.2 |
| | After Action | < 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 1.2 |
| ROW Section B: | | | | | | | |
| 150 ft. ROW with 2 Lines - Albany-BurntWoods 115-kV, Salem-Albany No.2 115-kV. | Before Action | < 0.1 | 0.2 | < 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.7 |
| | After Action | < 0.1 | 0.2 | < 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.7 |
| ROW Section C: | | | | | | | |
| 100 ft. ROW with 1 Line - Albany-BurntWoods 115-kV. | Before Action | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 |
| | After Action | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 | < 0.1 |
| ROW Section D: | | | | | | | |
| 125 ft. ROW with 1 Line - Santiam-Toledo 230-kV. | Before Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| | After Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| ROW Section E: | | | | | | | |
| 212.5 ft. ROW with 2 Lines - Albany-BurntWoods 115-kV, Santiam-Toledo 230-kV. | Before Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| | After Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| ROW Section F: | | | | | | | |
| 237.5 ft. ROW with 2 Lines - Albany-BurntWoods 115-kV, Santiam-Toledo 230-kV. | Before Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |
| | After Action | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 3.6 |

* Values developed from BPA modelling programs

Public Comments

This section presents comments received on the Preliminary EA and responses to those comments.

Comment 0001

AEA090001

Daniel H. Ziegler

Corvallis, OR 97330

March 30, 2009

Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office – DKE-7

Reference TEP-TPP-3

I have two requests to make with respect to your planned activity. The first concerns protection of Corvallis Drainageways and High Value Riparian Corridors along the West Branch of Dixon Creek. The second concerns electromagnetic radiation field strengths in areas within 300 feet of the boundaries of the BPA right-of-way.

0001-1

Paragraph 3.4.1 of your Environmental Assessment (EA) lists 13 rivers and streams that will be affected by TEP-TPP-3 activity. Figure 3-2 is a map showing the bodies of water requiring protection. This map does not show that your activity will encroach on valuable drainageway and riparian corridors of the West Branch of Dixon Creek that runs along Live Oak Drive. Your Figures 1-1 and 3-1 clearly show that Dixon Creek extends and passes beneath BPA lines at approximately Albany-Burnt Woods milepost #11.

Although BPA has no poles to be replaced in the near vicinity of Dixon Creek, your heavy equipment and work crews will use the very narrow, fragile, gravel Live Oak Drive for access to the BPA lines. Live Oak Drive parallels the creek and was not located far enough from the creek to protect the High Value Riparian Corridor along Dixon Creek. TEP-TPP-3 activities should be aware of this situation and not increase destruction of this valuable natural resource anymore than it has already been degraded by unfortunate placement of Live Oak Drive too close to the creek. The West Branch of Dixon Creek is identified and protected by the **Corvallis Stormwater Masterplan** as a valuable Corvallis Drainageway. It is also identified and protected as a High Value Riparian Corridor in the **Corvallis Natural Features Inventory**. The **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife** identifies this stream as a fish bearing stream. Please insure that BPA crews will not degrade the stream or riparian vegetation shading and protecting it within 50 feet of the stream.

0001-2

Your EA document correctly acknowledges the potential risk of electromagnetic radiation along the right-of-way. Please complete your coverage of this important subject by adding data to Table 3-10 (or insert another companion Table) to present your estimates of magnetic field strength at distances of 100, 200, and 300 feet from the edges of the BPA right-of-way. Your estimates need only address the nominal situation of level ground on each side of the right-of-way. Assuming an inverse square relationship between distance and the power lines, the annual average milligauss values shown in Table 3-10 would be very much smaller at distances of 100 to 300 feet from the right-of-way.

Sincerely,
Daniel H. Ziegler

Responses:

0001-1

Thank you for the information concerning the environmental sensitivity of the west branch of Dixon Creek along Live Oak Drive. BPA is aware of the designations afforded this creek by the City of Corvallis and Oregon Department of Fish and Game. To clarify, BPA does not propose and has no plans to use Live Oak Drive to access the transmission line corridor during construction. Live Oak Drive was used in the past to access the transmission line corridor for maintenance activities; however encroachment of vegetation has made the road unsuitable and unsafe, and this road is no longer used to access the transmission lines. In the vicinity of the west branch of Dixon Creek, BPA will access this area of the transmission line corridor from existing access roads east and west of Dixon Creek. BPA currently has no access across Dixon Creek and does not propose to acquire access across the creek (the creek crosses perpendicular to the corridor in this area).

As the commenter correctly notes, no poles requiring replacement exist in the immediate vicinity of Dixon Creek. Additionally, no riparian vegetation would be removed along or near Dixon Creek during or prior to construction, and no culvert work in Dixon Creek would occur. Therefore, no impacts to Dixon Creek or adjacent riparian vegetation would be expected to occur as a result of project construction activities. As explained in Sections 3.2.3 and 3.5.3 of the EA, mitigation measures to prevent or reduce water quality impacts to all project areas streams will be implemented prior to the start of construction.

0001-2

Comment noted. As requested, BPA has included additional information concerning magnetic field levels at distances of 100, 200, and 300 feet from the edge of the project corridor right-of-way. This information is provided in Table 3-10a (see *Revisions to the EA*). As the commenter suggests, magnetic field levels drop off rapidly with distance from the transmission lines. This additional data is consistent with the EA in that no change to the magnetic field environment is expected as a result of the pole replacement project.

Comment 0002

AEA090002

B O N N E V I L L E P O W E R A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

Proposed Albany-Burnt Woods/Santiam-Toledo Pole Replacement Project

1. Comments on the Preliminary EA:

0002-1

It's not come on my property until the grass seed is harvested and I will talk to the judge about your easement. I am a widow with 13 children and I know my rights I own the land and I am not compensated at all for your huge power lines going through my property

2. I need more information about:

3. I have these other comments:

0002-2

I am the owner of the land where your power lines come through and I am not going to let you ruin my renters grass crop. On your part your trucks have made large furrows in the road and the trucks do not stay in the 25' easement perimeter. I am going to protest your easement if there is 1 inch of crop destroyed. It's the farmers livelihood.

Name Bonnie M. Bender
Address 11111 11th St
City Albany State OR Zip 97321

Received 4/8

Please mail your comments by **April 13, 2009** to
BPA Public Affairs DKE-7
PO Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

BPA posts all comments online with the name of the commenter at www.bpa.gov/comment, no addresses will be posted unless comment is submitted by a business.

Responses:**0002-1**

Comment noted. BPA is in the process of coordinating with potentially affected landowners concerning access to BPA's existing transmission line easement for construction of the pole replacement project. Regarding compensation for BPA's existing transmission line easement, BPA paid just compensation to affected property owners at the time it acquired its land rights for the transmission line.

0002-2

Comment noted. As discussed in Section 3.1.3 of the EA, possible mitigation for impacts from project construction includes compensation to affected farmers for any lost crop production caused by the construction of the proposed project. This mitigation has been adopted in the Mitigation Action Plan for the proposed project. BPA Real Property Services will review and assess the propriety of fulfilling any requests for compensation on a case-by-case basis after project construction is complete.