



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

August 4, 2011

In reply refer to: KEC-4

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Proposed Action: Alvey-Fairview 230-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Rebuild

Environmental Project Manager: Douglas F. Corkran, KEC-4, Phone: 503-230-7646, FAX 503-230-5669, dfcorkran@bpa.gov.

Budget Information: Work Order 00282203 and Task TVAG 03

Location: Lane, Douglas and Coos Counties, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to rebuild the 97-mile long 230-kV wood pole Alvey-Fairview No.1 transmission line. The original line was built in the 1940's, most of the structures and associated structure components are physically worn and structurally unsound in places. Based on the deteriorated condition of the Alvey-Fairview transmission line, wood pole structures and associated structure components (switches, cross arms, braces, insulator assemblies) need to be replaced to maintain reliable electrical service, avoid risks to the public and ensure worker safety. The existing conductor was replaced more recently and will be re-used.

The existing structures would be replaced with structures of essentially the same design, and with similar structure components. Most structures would be replaced within or near to their existing locations. Proposed activities would include improving existing access roads, establishing temporary staging areas for storage of materials, removing and replacing existing wood pole structures, revegetating areas disturbed by construction activities and removing danger trees. The transmission line would continue to operate at 230-kV.

Class of Action to be Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021): C4. Reconstruction (upgrading or rebuilding) existing electric powerlines more than approximately 20 miles in length

We have determined that the proposed action is within the class of actions normally requiring an Environmental Assessment (EA), but not necessarily requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as listed in Subpart D of 10 C.F.R. Part 1021. Therefore, we have determined that an EA will be prepared to assess the impacts of the proposed action. On the basis of the analysis in the EA, BPA will either prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact and proceed with the action, or will prepare an EIS if the EA reveals the potential for significant environmental impacts.

/s/Katherine S. Pierce
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: August 5, 2011