

# Bonneville-Alcoa Access Road Project

## Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

### SUMMARY

**Responsible Agency:** U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

**Name of Proposed Project:** Bonneville-Alcoa Access Road Project

**Abstract:** BPA proposes to establish a half mile of access road to tower 9/1 along the Bonneville-Alcoa No. 1 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The road is needed to replace maintenance and emergency access to tower 9/1 because the road previously used to access the tower is blocked by a landslide that occurred in 1996. Approximately 1/8 mile of the proposed road exists, although it is overgrown and needs brush clearing. The remaining 3/8 mile of road would be constructed.

The environmental analysis determined that the Proposed Action would have no significant impacts. There would be short-term, construction-related impacts such as noise, dust, vegetation disturbance, soil compaction, and erosion. Approximately 12 conifers and a number of deciduous trees and shrubs would be permanently removed. The road would come within 120 feet of a wetland, but the wetland would not be affected.

In addition to the Proposed Action, BPA considered the No Action Alternative. In this alternative, BPA would not clear or construct the half mile of proposed access road to tower 9/1, which would remain inaccessible by road for routine maintenance. Without regular maintenance, the potential that emergency repairs could be needed would increase. An emergency at the tower probably would require reconstructing the existing access road, which is expected to result in greater environmental impacts than the Proposed Action.

For additional information, contact:

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For copies of the Final Environmental Assessment, which includes the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), call 1-800-622-4250—leave a message with the name of this project, and your name and mailing address. The FONSI is also available separately on this website.

For additional information on National Environmental Policy Act activities of the U.S. Department of Energy, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance - EH-42, U.S. Department of Energy, Room 3E-094, 1000 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0119; 1-800-472-2756.