



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, Washington 98666-0491

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

October 16, 2009

In reply refer to: TEP-CSB-2

### **To: Parties interested in the Proposed Central Ferry Substation Project**

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has been asked by Puget Sound Energy Inc. (PSE) to interconnect up to 1250 megawatts of electricity generated from PSE's proposed Lower Snake River Wind Energy Project in Garfield and Columbia counties, Washington to the Federal Columbia River Transmission System. As a federal agency, BPA must consider the environmental impacts of its decision to interconnect under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this letter is to describe the proposal and explain how you may comment on the project or contact BPA with questions.

### **Background**

PSE proposes to independently build, own, and operate the Lower Snake River Wind Energy Project and its associated facilities. PSE submitted an application for a Conditional Use Permit to Garfield County in January 2009 to begin the siting process for its proposed wind project. Garfield County, in consultation with Columbia County, is conducting a State Environmental Policy Act process for its consideration of PSE's proposed wind project. A final Environmental Impact Statement that addressed impacts of the entire project was released by Garfield County on October 7, 2009.

PSE also has requested interconnection of its project to BPA's transmission system to move the power generated by its proposed wind project to its customers. Under its Open Access Transmission Tariff (Tariff) for the FCRTS, BPA offers transmission interconnection to the FCRTS to all eligible customers on a non-discriminatory and first-come, first-served basis, subject to an environmental review under NEPA. Pursuant to its Tariff, BPA needs to respond to PSE's interconnection request.

### **Proposal**

BPA proposes to build a new 500/230 kilovolt (kV) substation along its two existing Little Goose -Lower Granite 500-kV transmission lines. This new facility, called Central Ferry Substation, would require approximately 25 acres of land in the Pomeroy area of Garfield County, Wash. The substation would be located adjacent to the existing transmission line rights-of-way.

### **How to comment**

BPA invites you to comment on BPA's interconnection proposal. Comments will be accepted through November 16, 2009. You may submit comments to BPA online at: [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment), via mail to: Bonneville Power Administration, Public Affairs - DKE-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR, 97293-4428, or fax your comments to (503) 230-3285. You also may call us with your comments toll free at (800) 622-4519. Please reference "Central Ferry Substation" with your comments. We will post all comments we receive on our Web site [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment).

### **Schedule**

BPA is in the process of collecting environmental data concerning the proposed interconnection, and currently anticipates completion of its environmental review for this proposal in the next two to four months. If BPA determines that the decision to interconnect PSE's proposed wind project is consistent

with BPA's Business Plan Environmental Impact Statement (BP EIS), BPA will prepare a record of decision (ROD) tiered to the BP EIS and its associated ROD. If there is a decision to proceed, BPA would offer PSE an agreement to interconnect the proposed wind project to BPA's transmission system.

**For more information**

If you have questions or would like more information about BPA's proposed interconnection of the wind project, please call us toll free at (800) 622-4519 or visit our Web site at [www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Wind/](http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Wind/).

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Johny Luiz*

Johny Luiz  
Project Manager

Enclosures:  
Vicinity Map  
Comment form