



Department of Energy

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

July 10, 2000

In reply refer to: KECN-4

To: People Interested in the Condon Wind Project

SeaWest WindPower, Inc. is proposing to build a new wind energy facility near Condon in Gilliam County, Oregon. (See enclosed map.) Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to purchase the electrical output from the project and provide transmission. This letter briefly explains the proposal and invites you to public meetings in Condon and Arlington to learn more. You are also invited to comment on the proposal.

Wednesday, July 19, 2000

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

City of Arlington Municipal Building
Council Chambers
Locust and First Streets
Arlington, OR

Thursday, July 20, 2000

4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Gilliam County Courthouse
Circuit Court Room
221 S. Oregon Street
Condon, OR

Both meetings will be informal, open houses. Come anytime between 4:00 and 8:00, when it is convenient for you. Members of the project team will be available to describe the proposal and answer your questions. We plan a brief presentation around 5:00 and again at 7:00.

Proposal

SeaWest proposes to build and operate a wind generation facility on private land northwest of Condon. SeaWest is studying a larger area initially and would locate the facility within that area based on wind conditions and environmental studies. The facility would generate about 24.5 megawatts of power. (A megawatt is an electrical unit of power equal to 1,000 kilowatts.) The designs being looked at would place from 26 to 41 turbines in strings (or rows) with from 250 to 425 feet between each turbine. SeaWest has not yet picked a turbine design, so exact numbers and distances are not yet known.

Power from the turbines would be collected by an underground and overhead cable loop. It would then be fed underground to a new 1 to 2-acre substation located on the project site. From the substation, the power would travel over new overhead lines for a distance of 2 to 5 miles (depending on the selected route) and connect into the existing Bonneville 69-kilovolt transmission line that runs between De Moss and Condon Substations.

The project would also require access roads, an operation and maintenance building, and onsite storage.

SeaWest would like to begin construction in mid to late 2001, with commercial operation starting in late 2001. The project would operate for at least 20 years.

Environmental Analysis

Bonneville, as a Federal agency, must study the environmental impacts, both adverse and beneficial, of a proposed project before it can take action. This policy is set out in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Act requires that significant environmental impacts of a proposed action be discussed in an Environmental Impact Statement. Because we are proposing to purchase power from the Condon Wind Project, we will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on the entire proposal. The analysis will include at least two transmission alternatives.

To Comment

If you have comments on the proposed Condon Wind Project, you can give them to us at the public meetings, leave a message on our toll-free comment line at 1-800-622-4519, send an e-mail to comment@bpa.gov, or mail them to: Bonneville Power Administration, P.O. Box 12999, Portland, OR 97212. If you comment by August 7, 2000, your ideas can affect the scope of our environmental studies.

For More Information

If you have any questions about the proposal, please call me toll-free at 1-800-282-3713, call my direct number (503) 230-4386, or send an e-mail to gddarr@bpa.gov. Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ George D. Darr

George D. Darr
Project Manager

Enclosure:
Map