



Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

June 23, 2009

In reply refer to: KEC-4

To: Parties Interested in the Proposed Electrical Interconnection of the Horn Butte Wind Project

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has been asked by Horn Butte Wind Energy LLC (Horn Butte), a wholly owned subsidiary of Invenergy Wind Development LLC (Invenergy), to interconnect 78 megawatts (MW) of electricity from its proposed Horn Butte Wind Project in Gilliam County, Oregon, to the Federal Columbia River Transmission System (FCRTS). This letter explains BPA's role in potentially interconnecting this project to BPA's transmission grid and provides information about how to participate in BPA's public process for consideration of the proposed interconnection.

Background

In 2005, Invenergy submitted a request to BPA for interconnection of up to 150 MW of electric power from their proposed 150-MW wind generation project in Gilliam and Morrow counties. Invenergy subsequently permitted and built only 72 MW of this project, with this 72-MW portion referred to as the Willow Creek Wind Project. In June 2008, BPA issued a record of decision (ROD) allowing the interconnection of the 72-MW Willow Creek Wind Project to the FCRTS.

In December, 2008, Invenergy submitted an application to Gilliam County for a Conditional Use Permit for the proposed development of the remaining 78 MW of its original 150-MW proposal. This 78-MW portion is referred to as the Horn Butte Wind Project (see map). Gilliam County has siting and approval jurisdiction over this project, and has conducted public hearings concerning Invenergy's application for a Conditional Use Permit. Gilliam County has approved the Conditional Use Permit for siting the proposed wind project.

In addition, BPA must make a decision on whether to allow interconnection of this project to the FCRTS. Under its Open Access Transmission Tariff, BPA offers transmission services, including interconnection of generation, to all eligible customers on a non-discriminatory and first-come, first-served basis, subject to an environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Proposal

BPA is proposing to allow the interconnection of the Horn Butte Wind Energy project into the FCRTS. No new facilities would be constructed by BPA for this interconnection. New metering equipment would be installed at BPA's Boardman Substation's control house. BPA would also install similar equipment at Invenergy's proposed Horn Butte Substation control house.

How to Comment

We are accepting comments on BPA's proposed action through July 14, 2009. Comments can be submitted online at: <http://www.bpa.gov/comment>, via mail to: Bonneville Power Administration, Public Affairs Office - DKC-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR, 97293-4428, or faxed to (503) 230-3285. You can also call us with your comment toll free at (800) 622-4519. Please reference the Horn Butte Wind Project in your comments. Please note that all comment letters will be posted in their entirety on BPA's Web site at: http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/public_affairs/Comment_Listings/.

Schedule

We plan to complete the environmental review of the proposed action by summer 2009. If we determine that the decision to interconnect this proposed project is consistent with our Business Plan (BP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), we will prepare a record of decision (ROD) tiered to the BP EIS and its ROD.

For More Information

If you have questions or would like more project information, please call me toll free at (800) 622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Douglas F. Corkran

Douglas F. Corkran

Project Environmental Lead

Enclosure
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