Welcome

Montana-to-Washington Transmission System Upgrade Project

Scoping Meeting

Open House
5 – 7 p.m.
Project Need

Recent requests for transmission service from parties within the State of Montana have led BPA to analyze its existing transmission system to see how best to increase transmission capacity from western Montana to power markets across the Northwest.

Increased capacity would:

• Allow new renewable resources to access power markets

• Maintain existing level of reliability with increased transmission capacity
Project upgrades would include:

In Montana:

- Construct a new series compensation substation near St. Regis or Missoula
- Install new circuit breakers and a new shunt capacitor at Hot Springs Substation
- Install new circuit breakers and upgrade existing series capacitor at Garrison Substation
New Series Compensation Substation

A new series compensation substation would allow BPA to increase the power transmission capacity along the Taft-Garrison No. 1 and No. 2 500-kV transmission lines.
Potential Substation Site at St. Regis

- Potential Substation
- BPA Transmission Line
- BPA Transmission Tower

* Size of substation is preliminary and subject to change based on the outcome of further engineering studies.
Project upgrades would include:

In Idaho:

- Upgrade existing series capacitor at Dworshak Substation
- Expand Hatwai Substation to install new series and shunt capacitors
- Replace roughly 12 miles of conductor on the Taft-Dworshak No. 1 500-kV line

In Washington:

- Expand Bell Substation to install new series and shunt capacitors
- Upgrade existing series capacitor at Bell Substation
Reconductoring

Replacing the conductor (wire) allows BPA to improve transmission system reliability.

The proposed project would replace existing single wire with twin wire at four segments on the Taft-Dworshak No. 1 500-kV line in order to match the capacity to the rest of the line.
Series Capacitors

Series Capacitors enable more power to flow through transmission lines without installing new wires.

Shunt Capacitors & Circuit Breakers

Shunt Capacitors support required voltage levels. Circuit breakers help limit the extent of a power outage.
What is the role of BPA’s Realty Group?

- Respond to landowner questions.
- Address all issues regarding potential impacts to property.
- Request permission to enter property.
- Negotiate and acquire rights for BPA.

This may include acquiring an easement right across a parcel, or acquiring a portion of land from the property owner.
What is an EIS?

Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) are prepared for federal actions when the significance of the environmental impacts of a proposed action are not clear. During the Scoping process, BPA wants your help by having you tell us:

- What issues should we evaluate?
- What potential environmental impacts should we analyze?
- What alternatives should we consider?

Your comments will greatly assist us during our environmental review.
Environmental Review
Schedule

Scoping comment period ends July 2, 2012
Consider scoping comments August 2012
Field studies, preliminary design, environmental analysis, and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Summer/Fall 2012
Release Draft EIS for comment Fall 2013
Address comments Winter 2013
Release Final EIS and issue decision Fall 2014
How to Comment

Call: 800-622-4519
Fax: 503-230-4019
Write: Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office - DKE-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428
Online: www.bpa.gov/go/M2W

Reference "Montana-to-Washington Transmission System Upgrade Project" with all communications.

Scoping Comment Period Ends: July 2, 2012

Project contacts:

Amit Sinha, Project Manager, axsinha@bpa.gov, 360-619-6178
Andrew Montaño, Environmental Lead, ammontano@bpa.gov, 503-230-4145