May 2005

The Bonneville Power Administration and the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, both organizational units within the U.S. Department of Energy, have received requests for approval of a proposed international transmission line that would link Vancouver Island, British Columbia, with the Olympic Peninsula in Washington state. Both BPA and OEDER need to respond to these requests.

**Project Description**

Sea Breeze Pacific Juan de Fuca Cable LP is proposing to install a high voltage direct current electric power transmission line between Vancouver Island in Canada and Port Angeles on the Olympic Peninsula in the United States. This 550-megawatt transmission line would cross the international border beneath the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and would be constructed using a combination of underground and submarine cables.

**Proposed Agency Actions**

BPA’s proposed action for this project is to execute an agreement with Sea Breeze that would allow interconnection of the project with the Federal Columbia River Transmission System. The interconnection would be in the vicinity of BPA’s Port Angeles Substation, in Washington, and would include construction of a new converter substation. OEDER’s proposed action is to issue a presidential permit for the proposed project. If granted, the presidential permit would allow construction, operation, maintenance and interconnection of the project at the United States International Border.

**Working with the Community**

DOE works with public agencies, interest groups, tribes and private property owners to determine project issues and impacts. DOE would like to hear your concerns so that they can be incorporated into our consideration of the proposed project.

**Environmental Documentation**

DOE is now beginning preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act. This EIS will address the potential environmental impacts of DOE’s proposed actions related to the proposed project.

As part of the EIS process for this project, DOE is conducting public scoping to help determine the scope of issues to be addressed and potential significant impacts to be analyzed in the EIS. Written comments will be accepted at any time during the public scoping period for the EIS. To ensure that your comments are reflected in the EIS, please submit your comments by June 8, 2005.

Comments should be mailed to: Bonneville Power Administration, Communications – DM-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR, or e-mailed to comment@bpa.gov.

**Proposed Schedule**

DOE expects to release a Draft EIS to the public in winter 2005/06, and a Final EIS by summer 2006. DOE’s decisions concerning the proposed project would be documented in a Record of Decision issued no sooner.
than 30 days after release of the Final EIS. If DOE decides to proceed with its proposed actions for the project, Sea Breeze proposes that construction of the project could start as early as June 2006 with an operation date of December 2007.

Questions or Comments

If you have questions or would like more information about the project, or would like to receive future announcements on the project, please contact BPA toll free at 1-888-276-7790 or visit BPA’s TBL Web site at http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission_Projects/.