



Department of Energy

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

January 30, 2002

To: People Interested in the Santiam-Bethel Transmission Line Project

In September 2001, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) prepared a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Santiam-Bethel Transmission Line Project. You were on our mailing list to receive a copy. Since only two comments were received and only minor changes were needed on the Preliminary EA, it will serve as the Final EA and a separate document will not be issued. An errata sheet listing seven changes, a Finding of No Significant Impact, and a Mitigation Action Plan have been prepared and are enclosed.

Additional Copies: If you would like a copy of the EA, or additional copies of the enclosed errata sheet, Finding of No Significant Impact, and/or Mitigation Action Plan, please call our toll-free document request line: 1-800-622-4520. Leave a message naming this project and the documents you wish and giving your complete mailing address. They are also available at our website: www.efw.bpa.gov.

Proposal: BPA proposes to rebuild the first 17 miles of the Santiam-Chemawa transmission line from Santiam Substation to the line's connection to Portland General Electric's Bethel Substation to improve transmission system reliability in the Salem area of northwestern Oregon. BPA would replace the existing single-circuit 230-kilovolt line with towers that could support two circuits (double-circuit) in the existing right-of-way. The existing line supplies both Bethel Substation and BPA's Chemawa Substation. The new lines would eliminate overloading of the existing line from Santiam Substation to the tap to Bethel Substation by having one new line supply Bethel Substation and the other new line supply Chemawa Substation.

For More Information: If you need more information or have any questions, please call me at my direct number, 503-230-3469, or toll-free at 1-800-282-3713; or e-mail me at tklevesque@bpa.gov. Thank you for your interest in our work.

/s/ Tish Levesque

Tish Levesque
Environmental Project Manager

- 3 Enclosures:
1. Errata Sheet
 2. Finding of No Significant Impact
 3. Mitigation Action Plan