January 29, 2003

In reply refer to: T-DITT-2

To: People Interested in the Schultz-Hanford Area 500-kV Transmission Line Project

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Schultz-Hanford Area 500-kV Transmission Line Project. Last February, we sent you a letter explaining the progress of the project and if you requested, a copy of the draft EIS Summary or draft EIS and Appendices combined. We asked for your comments and held three public meetings. We received over 300 comments on the draft EIS. This letter briefly describes the final EIS, outlines BPA’s next steps and tells you how to contact us if you need more information or have questions about the project.

The final EIS includes changes to the draft EIS, copies of all comments received on the draft EIS, and our written responses to those comments. Depending on which document you requested and received during the draft EIS stage, the final document is now enclosed for your review.

Schedule
Based on the public comments we received and the analysis in the final EIS, BPA expects to make a decision, documented in a Record of Decision, in March 2003. The Record of Decision will be made available to the public and sent to those on the mailing list. If the decision is to proceed with the project, initial construction activities could begin as early as March 2003, with completion of the project by late 2004.

For More Information
If you would like additional copies of the final EIS or draft EIS, or have questions about this project, please call us toll free at 1-888-276-7790, email me at lcdriessen@bpa.gov or visit our website at www.transmission.bpa.gov/projects. Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Lou Driessen
Project Manager

Enclosure:
Summary or Final EIS and Appendices (if requested)