Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 491
Vancouver, Washington 98666-0491

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

April 10, 2018

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People Interested in the Steigerwald Uplands Land Acquisition

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is funding the acquisition of 51.88 acres of privately owned lands in Clark County, Washington, by the Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust (Gorge Land Trust). This letter is being sent to inform nearby residents and other interested parties of this land purchase.

The property to be acquired consists of two contiguous parcels known as Steigerwald Uplands (see enclosed map). The Steigerwald Uplands are located to the east of the city of Washougal and to the north of the intersection of Gibson Road and Washington State Road 14 and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

The Steigerwald Uplands are visible from key viewing areas in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, provide habitat for wildlife species, and include areas that are vegetated with native plant communities of Oregon white oak. The Gorge Land Trust intends to donate the property to the USFWS for inclusion into the Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge to ensure permanent protection and management of the property as a scenic resource and for plant and wildlife habitat.

BPA has analyzed the potential environmental impacts of funding this acquisition and determined that the action is categorically excluded from further environmental review and documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act. The categorical exclusion determination memo and environmental checklist was approved on April 10, 2018 and is posted on BPA's website at https://www.bpa.gov/efw/Analysis/CategoricalExclusions/Pages/2018.aspx.

If you have questions regarding this land acquisition, please contact me toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 360-619-6116, or e-mail me at ejaramillo@bpa.gov. If you have questions about the environmental review, please contact Kimberly St.Hilaire at the toll-free number above, directly at 503-230-5361, or by e-mail at krsthilaire@bpa.gov. Please refer to the Steigerwald Uplands Land Acquisition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Emmanuel Jaramillo
Emmanuel Jaramillo
Project Manager

Enclosure:
Steigerwald Uplands Land Acquisition Project Vicinity Map

Steigerwald Uplands Land Acquisition Project Vicinity Map

Clark County, WA - Washougal 24k USGS Quad

Proposed Steigerwald Uplands Acquisition Area

US Fish and Wildlife Service

0 0.25 0.5 1 Mile

N W E S

Bonneville POWER ADMINISTRATION

December 08, 2017