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**Bonneville Power Administration
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Input sought on rebuild of aging transmission line

Agency begins environmental study in Lane County, Ore.

Portland, Ore. - The Bonneville Power Administration invites the public to comment on a proposed project to rebuild the 26-mile Hills Creek-Lookout Point transmission line between Lowell and Oakridge in Lane County, Ore.

Routine maintenance has been performed on the 115-kilovolt line since it was built in 1953. Now most of the 60-year-old structures are physically worn and need to be replaced. The project may also require improving access roads and acquiring or developing new access roads or trails. The rebuild would reduce potential safety risks to the public and work crews. By rebuilding aging transmission lines when needed, BPA preserves the value and reliability of its transmission system.

“Right now is the best time to learn from residents about the area so we can consider concerns and input early in the project planning process,” said BPA project manager Richard Heredia. “The more detail we have from the start about natural resources, vegetation and property concerns, the better it is for the community and for the project. We want to hear from you.”

At the public meetings, community members can ask questions, voice concerns and share local knowledge about the potential impacts the environmental study should address. This review provides BPA the necessary information to make well-informed decisions.



A public meeting will be held at the following location:

Sept. 11, 2013

5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Oakridge High School cafeteria

47997 W. 1st Street

Oakridge, OR 97463

Residents who cannot attend the meetings can learn about the proposed transmission upgrade at: www.bpa.gov/goto/HillsCreekLookoutPoint. Or, send comments to www.bpa.gov/comment. Please submit comments either online or by phone at 800-622-4519 by Sept. 26, 2013, and reference Hills Creek-Lookout Point Transmission Line Rebuild Project.

About BPA

BPA is a nonprofit federal agency that markets renewable hydropower from federal dams in the Columbia River Basin, operates three-quarters of high-voltage transmission lines in the Northwest and funds one of

the largest wildlife protection and restoration programs in the world. BPA and its partners have also saved enough electricity through energy efficiency projects to power four large American cities. For more information, contact us at 503-230-5131 or visit www.bpa.gov.

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