



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 61409
Vancouver, WA 98666-1409

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

February 1, 2016

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: Parties interested in the Kalispell-Kerr Transmission Line Rebuild Project

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Kalispell-Kerr Transmission Line Rebuild Project. The draft EA describes the project and why it is needed, discusses the environmental impacts the project would create and lists the mitigation measures that would lessen or eliminate those impacts. This letter requests your comments on the EA and outlines the next steps for the project.

BPA proposes to rebuild the 41-mile, 115-kilovolt Kalispell-Kerr wood-pole transmission line between Kalispell and Polson, Montana. The line was originally built in 1947 and is showing normal deterioration due to age. The rebuild would involve replacing all wood-pole structures (including poles, cross arms, cross braces, guys, anchors and insulator assemblies); replacing conductors and ground wires; and improving access roads. If BPA decides to proceed with the project, construction would begin in the summer of 2017.

How to Comment: The EA can be viewed at the project website at www.bpa.gov/goto/KalispellKerr. If you requested a copy of the document, it is enclosed. If you would like a hard copy (about 200 pages), please call our toll-free phone number listed below.

Please send your comments by **March 1, 2016** and reference the Kalispell-Kerr Transmission Line Rebuild Project. We will consider all comments submitted during the comment period and provide responses to substantive comments in the final EA. In addition, comments will be available on the project website. There are several ways to comment:

Mail: Bonneville Power Administration Public Affairs – DKE-7 P.O. Box 14428 Portland, OR 97291-4428	Toll-free: 800-622-4519 FAX: 503-230-4019 Online: www.bpa.gov/comment
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Schedule: The proposed schedule for the EA process is as follows:

Comment scoping period	May 28, 2013 to June 28, 2013
Public scoping meetings	June 17 and 18, 2013
Draft EA available for public comment	February 1, 2016 to March 1, 2016
Final EA	Spring 2016
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Spring 2016
If decision to build, construction start	Summer 2017

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact the Environmental Protection Specialist, Justin Moffett, toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-3233 or by e-mail at jtmoffett@bpa.gov.

If you have other questions or would like more project information, please call me at the toll-free number listed above, directly at 360-619-6634, or by e-mail at amloran@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amanda Williams

Amanda Williams
BPA Project Manager

Enclosures: (if requested)

Draft EA
Comment Form
Return Envelope