



Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

June 29, 2017

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People interested in the Hills Creek-Lookout Point Transmission Line Rebuild Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and USDA Forest Service (Forest Service) have finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Hills Creek-Lookout Point Transmission Line Rebuild Project. This letter briefly describes the proposed action, where to find a copy of the final EA, and the next steps in the process.

Background: Under the proposed action BPA would rebuild the 26-mile, 115-kilovolt Hills Creek-Lookout Point wood-pole transmission line between the City of Oakridge and Lowell, Oregon. BPA would also realign two sections of the transmission line recently damaged by rock fall and landslides. These sections of line are within Willamette National Forest. The Forest Service is a cooperating agency in the development of the EA and is considering whether to issue a special use permit to allow BPA to realign the sections of line.

BPA and the Forest Service prepared an EA to help the agencies determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. The draft EA was released for public review and comment in August 2016 and received comments from seven entities. This final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. BPA and the Forest Service plan to make decisions on the proposed action and publish respective decision documents in summer 2017.

The Forest Service has an objection process for people who have previously submitted comments. If you have standing to object, the Forest Service will send you a separate letter with instructions about the objection process.

Copies Available: The final EA is available on BPA's website at www.bpa.gov/goto/HillsCreekLookoutPoint. If you previously requested a copy of the document, it is enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of any of the document, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520; leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address.

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the project, please contact me at 360-619-6557 or cjhamel@bpa.gov, or questions regarding the environmental process, contact Justin Moffett, Environmental Protection Specialist, at jtmoffett@bpa.gov or 503-230-3233. You can also reach us toll free at 800-622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chad Hamel
Chad Hamel
Project Manager

Enclosures (if requested):
Final EA