



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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

April 6, 2010

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-3

To neighbors and people interested in the Albeni Falls-Sand Creek Transmission Line project

Bonneville Power Administration will begin construction activities the week of May 10, 2010, to rebuild a section of BPA's Albeni Falls-Sand Creek transmission line in northern Idaho. Construction activities are scheduled to be completed this December. This letter provides background on the project, the open house meeting, environmental review process, construction activities and explains how to contact us if you have questions.

This transmission line is an important part of BPA's transmission system in northern Idaho. Rebuilding the line will enable BPA to continue to meet its commitment to provide reliable, low-cost and safe transmission service to our customers.

Background

This project involves the rebuild of a 25-mile section of BPA's Albeni Falls-Sand Creek transmission line located within an existing right-of-way from the Albeni Falls Dam to one mile north of BPA's Sandpoint Substation (see enclosed map). About 340 wood poles will be replaced, and 17 miles of the line will be reconducted to complete this rebuild project.

The existing transmission line and wood pole structures have gradually deteriorated over time due to exposure to the elements and normal wear and tear. BPA has performed routine maintenance on this line as needed, but many of the wood poles, conductors and other equipment are part of the original structures built in the early 1950s. If BPA does not rebuild it by installing new poles and replacing the hardware, it will risk deterioration, which could lead to line failures and possible power interruptions.

Open house meeting

BPA is holding an informal open house and would like to invite you to come and learn more about the project. Staff members will be available to answer your questions about this project, how it may impact your property and the proposed construction schedule. There will not be a formal presentation. Visitors may drop in any time between 3 and 7 p.m.

April 13, 2010
3 to 7 p.m.
Priest River City Hall
209 High St.
Priest River, ID 83856

Environmental review

BPA has evaluated the potential environmental effects of the proposed project. After the evaluation, BPA completed a Categorical Exclusion for the project under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in March 2010, announcing its decision to proceed with the proposed project. During the environmental review process, BPA held an open house meeting on August 16, 2007, in Priest River, Idaho to share information about the project with local landowners and other stakeholders.

What you may see during construction

You may see BPA staff or contractors such as engineers, environmental specialists and construction crews driving, parking or working on local roads or on the transmission line right-of-way. Construction activities will include removing and installing transmission poles, conductors and insulators, improving access roads and removing trees or other vegetation that may compromise the operation of the transmission line by either falling or growing into the line. These activities would impact some landowners with noise, dust and traffic for a period of time during construction.

For more information

If there are activities or facilities located within the transmission line area that you would like BPA to know about or need to make special arrangements for, please contact Erich Orth, Project Manager, toll free at 800-622-4519 or etorth@bpa.gov. To learn more about this project, please visit http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission_Projects/. Please include the name of this project with your correspondence.

Thank you for your interest in the project.

Erich T. Orth

/s/ Erich T. Orth

Project Manager

Enclosure:

Project map