



## Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

October 24, 2008

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-3 – Albany-Burnt Woods/Santiam-Toledo pole replacement

### **Dear neighbors and interested parties:**

Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to rebuild the wood pole sections of the Albany-Burnt Woods and Santiam-Toledo transmission lines. BPA is seeking your comments on the potential environmental impacts of these construction activities. Both the Santiam-Toledo No. 1 and Albany-Burnt Woods No. 1 lines are important components of BPA's transmission system in the mid-Willamette Valley. This letter briefly explains what work is proposed, explains the environmental process, and explains how to comment on the project.

### **Project description**

This project will maintain the safe and reliable operation of the lines by replacing wood poles that have gradually deteriorated due to exposure to the elements and normal wear and tear. BPA will upgrade existing roads and acquire new roads so that crews can safely access the wood poles. BPA does everything possible to mitigate the impacts of its work on surrounding property, and respects the private property rights of our rights-of-way neighbors.

### **Environmental process**

BPA will analyze the potential impacts of the proposed relocation and alternatives in an environmental assessment. In the EA, we will study potential impacts on the natural and built environment from each alternative. The two alternatives are to rebuild the line within the existing right-of-way and a no-action alternative. The EA will describe any mitigation measures that we incorporate into the proposed project.

### **Schedule**

This fall we will begin our analysis using your comments to help determine potential impacts. You may see survey crews and environmental specialists in the area as they begin preliminary design and analysis for the proposal. A preliminary EA will be available for review and comment this winter. By spring 2009, BPA will display the expected impacts of the proposal and decide whether or how to proceed with the project. If BPA decides to proceed, construction could begin in late spring or summer of 2009.

### **How to comment**

BPA is accepting comments on impacts of pole replacement activities through **November 24, 2008**. You may submit comments online at: [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment), via mail to: Bonneville Power Administration, Public Affairs Office - DKE-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR, 97293-4428, or by fax to (503) 230-3285. You also may call us with your comment toll free at (800) 622-4519. Please reference "Albany-Burnt Woods/Santiam-Toledo pole replacement project" with your comments. BPA will post all comment letters in their entirety on BPA's Web site at [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment).

**For more information**

If you have questions about this project, you may call BPA toll free at (800) 622-4519 or call our realty specialist Dustin Smith at (541) 988-7432. You may also visit the project Web site at [www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission\\_Projects/](http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Transmission_Projects/). Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erich T. Orth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "E" and "O".

Erich T. Orth  
Project Manager

Enclosure:  
Comment form