



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

In reply refer to: KE-4

December 17, 2004

To: People Interested in Environmental Analyses for Bonneville Power Administration's Business Decisions

Bonneville Power Administration has decided to prepare a Supplement Analysis to its 1995 Business Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement. We invite you to participate in this process.

Background on the 1995 Business Plan EIS – In the early 1990s, BPA determined it needed adaptive policies to guide its actions for meeting its business-related and public service missions. BPA developed the Business Plan EIS, which is a policy-level EIS that focused on the relationships between BPA and the electric utility market. The Business Plan EIS evaluates alternatives for BPA's business activities in five key policy areas: Products and Services, Rates, Energy Resources, Transmission, and Fish and Wildlife Administration. The EIS also compares how the market responds to each alternative in terms of resource development, resource operations, transmission development and operations, and consumer behavior. These responses are what determine the environmental impacts.

In August 1995, the BPA Administrator issued a Record of Decision that adopted the proposed action from the Business Plan EIS (i.e., the Market-Driven Alternative for BPA's business activities). Since 1995, about 40 strategic business decisions have been implemented through the Business Plan EIS and ROD. Please see our Web site for copies of the Business Plan EIS, ROD and related documents.

Now, almost 10 years later, BPA believes it is appropriate to review the Business Plan EIS to determine if substantial changes have occurred that might alter the analysis in the EIS. BPA will review the EIS through a document called a Supplement Analysis.

We Invite Your Comments – We encourage comments on the following determinations BPA needs to address. Pursuant to U.S. Department of Energy and Council on Environmental Quality National Environmental Policy Act regulations, BPA will use the Supplement Analysis to determine whether:

- There have been substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns; or
- There are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. (*See* 10 CFR 1021.314(c); 40 CFR 1502.9(c).)

More information on the Business Plan EIS and our planned Supplement Analysis process is available in the attached interview and on our Web site. We plan to make the Supplement Analysis publicly available in late 2005.

How to Comment – If you would like to submit comments relevant to the determinations to be made in the Supplement Analysis, please submit your comments to BPA by March 1, 2005. You may submit comments online at our Web site:

http://www.bpa.gov/efw/Environmental_Planning_and_Analysis/Business_Plan_SA/ or by mail at:

Bonneville Power Administration
Communications - DM-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428
Fax: 503-230-3285

Please note that all comments submitted will be posted on our Supplement Analysis Web site. We will post the comments so that others can reflect on the comments and make comments of their own.

For More Information – If you need more information or have any questions, please call either of the project leads, Rick Yarde (503-230-3769) or Mike Mayer (503-230-4022). Thank you for your interest in our analysis.

Sincerely,

/s/

Gregory K. Delwiche
Vice-President, Environment Fish and Wildlife

Attachment