

Public Comments

McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project

Below is a list of the comments received at two public meetings held for the project and included in the two letters received during the public comment period. Comments are organized by subject. A list of participants at each meeting and the letters in their entirety can be found after the comments.

Comments

Need for Project

- Is the power for the dams?
- We definitely need the line because wind projects are waiting for transmission. Horizon is planning to build a new wind project and PPM is planning to expand their wind project in the area.
- We're going to be shorter on water and will need the wind projects.
- We need transmission lines in Klickitat County for wind farm projects being developed in the area.
- We want you to build the line so wind can tie into it.

Project Description

- Is this the same plan as in 2002?
- Is there already a 500-kV transmission line on the Washington side?
- What is the project alignment in the JU Canyon area?
- Goldendale Aluminum Company owns all of the property east of mile 70.

Project Impacts

- The office building for St. Michelle is in the right-of-way; will it have to be moved?
- AgriNorthwest owns fields along the corridor, starting near Plymouth. Can circle irrigation systems be allowed to pass underneath the lines?
- How far do irrigation pivots need to be from the tower legs?
- Please contact AgriNorthwest as soon as a decision is made whether to construct; they would like to move pivots in winter; planting is in spring.
- Landowners in Paterson located on the south side of the corridor asked about the location of the new line in relationship to existing lines.
- A landowner wants to see tower placement in relationship to fields/vineyards and would like a copy of the photomaps for reference.
- What is the clearance necessary for sprinklers under the line?
- Does BPA pay to move irrigation pivots?

- How are crop damage payments determined?
- At Sandpiper Farms, the farmed trees are about 60 feet tall in the proposed line route. How many rows of trees will need to be cut (project miles 21 thru 24)?
- Mercer Ranch is located in project miles 30 thru 32. What is the compensation for removal of orchards for towers and access?
- A landowner wants to see access road and tower placement in relations to fields.
- A landowner had a question about permits and use of access road that the landowner built in 1974.
- A landowner in project miles 47 and 48 has a 6-foot tall metal guard rail fence on wood posts under the lines and wanted to know if he will have to move the fence. He likes that towers would be taller if it doesn't conduct as much electricity onto fences.
- A landowner's bull pasture is around a tower in project mile 48 in Roosevelt. For construction worker safety, a temporary fence will be needed to contain bulls in one area while the contractors are building the new towers. Contact landowner prior to construction.
- Cow pastures are located in project miles 48 and 49.
- A possible culvert is needed to access tower 48/4. Access is tough because of water in late fall and winter, but dries up around April.
- Rattlesnakes are in the area.
- A landowner was glad the new line will be on the north side of the corridor in project mile 68, so it won't impact their houses located on the south edge of corridor.
- During construction, please avoid our spring on the right-of-way at project mile 68 that is our only water supply.
- Please avoid the cave on the right-of-way at project mile 68.
- We are glad the new line will stay on the north side of the corridor near project mile 70, so it won't impact the old Furman Ranch homestead.
- There is a homesteader's fenced cemetery in the right-of-way on the east end of the project (Goldendale Aluminum property).
- Cattle and pasture are on the south side of the corridor in project miles 71 and 72.
- There are cattle on pasture on the west end of project all the way to the aluminum plant.
- Hopefully if the line is built, construction activity will benefit the community.
- Will the new line affect our television reception?
- We would like to express our hopes that the new towers are installed in line with the existing towers, so they will not unduly restrict our view of the Columbia River. We own several properties in Plymouth, and the view is considered one of the selling points of this property.

Public Involvement

- Have you had any opposition?
- There are new property owners, are you including them?
- Representatives from Senators Murray and Cantwell would like to know the comments BPA receives about the project.

Schedule/ Construction

- When will you be building the new line?
- We plant in spring; when will we know the timing of construction on our land?
- If you start in 2009, is 2012 the earliest you could finish?
- Does BPA hire local people?
- A family has a rock pit and would like to be a rock provider for project.
- We are interested in providing rock to the construction contractor.
- How do I find out who the construction contractor is going to be?
- A utility crossing or franchise permit is required for all highway crossings [SR 14, I-82, SR 221] or transmission lines on State right of way.
- BPA will need to coordinate any access to any project site with Washington State Department of Transportation's Area Maintenance offices for both construction and maintenance of the transmission lines.
- For any oversized or overweight hauls on WSDOT-maintained rights-of-way, BPA must obtain the appropriate permits prior to transporting any of these hauls.

Other

- Is BPA going to build another line near the new Rock Creek Substation near Goodnoe?
- A new line near the Rock Creek substation may interfere with wind turbine sites.
- People have been trying to get into the Rock Creek Substation. Landowners in the area watch over the substation and tell people to leave. Can cameras be put up or some other type of security so that nobody gets hurt?
- The existing transmission line structures on the west end (near Goldendale Aluminum) are corroded. Do they need to be replaced?

Participants at the November 5, 2008 Open House in Paterson, WA	
Name	Affiliation/ Town or State
Rebecca Mengelos	US Senator Patty Murray/ Washington
David Reeploeg	US Senator Maria Cantwell/ Washington
Phi Hoang	
Mark Child	AgriNorthwest
Stan & Patti Reese	Neighbor
Larry Nehls	St. Michelle
Pat Tucker	Sandpiper Farm/ Paterson, Washington
Nancy Strom	Kennewick, Washington
Jesse Greenough Jr	Kennewick, Washington
Bill Harris	Fire District 6/ Paterson, Washington

Participants at the November 6, 2008 Open House in Roosevelt, WA	
Name	Affiliation/ Town or State
Carolyn Cleveland	
Ada Ruth Whitmore	Whoop-N-Holler Ranch/ Bickleton, Washington
Christine Whitmore	Prosser, Washington
Gloria Prince	Bickleton, Washington
Donald Mercer	Prosser, Washington
David McClure	Director, Klickitat County Natural Resources Goldendale, Washington
Jo Van Huy	Goldendale, Washington
Dave Hctor	Goldendale, WA
Don & Bob Lee	Lee Ranch/Goldendale, Washington
Jack & Tami Whitmore	Whitmore Ranch/ Bickleton, Washington
Rose Kelley	17 Roosevelt Grade Road/ Roosevelt, Washington
Kelley Bowcutt	Gold Buckle Rodeo/ Roosevelt, Washington



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Paula J. Hammond
Secretary of Transportation

MJD080008

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Yakima, WA 98909-2560

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www.wsdot.wa.gov

October 30, 2008

Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office – DKE-7
P. O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

Subject: U.S. Department of Energy, Bonneville Power Administration
TNP-TPP-3, McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project
South Central Region
I-82, MP 131-132 (SR 14 to Columbia River) vicinity
SR 14, MP 152.24-180.77 (Benton/Klickitat County Line to I-82)
SR 221, MP 0.00 (SR 14 intersection) vicinity
Southwest Region
SR 14, MP 108.39-152.24 (John Day Dam to Benton/Klickitat County Line)

We have reviewed the proposed project, and have the following comments.

1. The proposed transmission line would cross three WSDOT-maintained highways: Interstate 82, State Highway 14, and State Highway 221.
 - I-82 is a fully-controlled limited access highway.
 - SR 14 is a partially controlled limited access highway. SR 14 west of the Benton County/Klickitat County line is in the Southwest Region of WSDOT.
 - SR 221 is a partially-controlled limited access highway in the immediate vicinity of the intersection with SR 14. North of the limited access area, SR 221 is a Class 1 Access Managed highway in the project area.
2. A Utility crossing or franchise permit is required for all highway crossings or transmission lines on State right of way. Please contact the South Central Region Utilities Office to obtain the utility crossing or franchise permits. Please contact Jamil Anabtawi at (509) 577-1785.
3. The Bonneville Power Administration will need to coordinate any access to any project site with WSDOT's Area Maintenance offices (depending upon the location of the project site) for both construction and maintenance of the transmission lines.
 - Work or access in state rights-of-way in Benton County should be coordinated with the WSDOT South Central Region Area 3 Maintenance office. Please contact Tom Lenberg at (509) 577-1933.
 - Work or access in state rights-of-way in Klickitat County should be coordinated with the WSDOT – Southwest Region. Please contact Mike Padua at (306) 905-2295.

4. For any oversized or overweight hauls on WSDOT-maintained rights-of-way, the applicant must obtain the appropriate permit from WSDOT prior to transporting any of these hauls.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Dan Eberle at (509) 577-1637.

Sincerely,



Bill Preston, P.E.
Regional Materials and Planning Engineer

BP: rh/jjg

cc: File #1, Benton County
Jamil Anabtawi, Utilities Engineer
Tom Lenberg, Area 3 Maintenance Superintendent
Ed Pickering, WSDOT – Southwest Region
Dave Balinger, WSDOT – Southwest Region
Mike Padua, WSDOT-Southwest Region

MJD0800014

November 20, 2008

Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office - DKE-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

RE: McNary-John Day Transmission Line Project

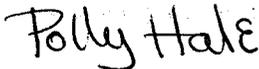
We have received the letter dated October 21, 2008 from the Department of Energy regarding the above project.

We would like to express our hopes that the new towers are installed in line with the existing towers, so they will not unduly restrict our view of the Columbia River. We own several properties in Plymouth, and the view is considered one of the selling points of this property.

Thank you for your consideration.



Steve Hale



Polly Hale
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