



Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

November 18, 2021

In reply refer to: TFHQ-TPP-3

To: People interested in the Hills Creek-Lookout Point No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has completed the supplemental environmental assessment (EA) for the Hills Creek-Lookout Point No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild in October 2021. Based on the supplemental EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and has made a decision to proceed with the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

Background: BPA will rebuild its Hills-Creek Lookout Point No. 1 transmission line in Lane County, Oregon and upgrade the existing access road and trail system network associated with the transmission line. The project will replace deteriorating structures, conductor and hardware. The project will increase public and worker safety and electrical reliability for utility customers. The existing transmission line components are at the end of their service life, are physically worn, and in places, structurally unsound.

BPA previously prepared an EA and Finding of No Significant Impact in 2017. A supplemental EA was also prepared to analyze potential impacts of project activities that were not included in the original proposed action and 2017 EA. The supplemental EA was prepared to help the agency determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BPA released the supplemental EA for public review and comment on October 18, 2021 and received comments from one individual who supported the rebuild project. Based on the original and supplemental EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the project will not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Decision: BPA has decided to construct the Hills Creek-Lookout Point No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild. Project construction is expected to begin in late fall 2021 and continue through early fall 2023, with breaks in construction during seasonal restrictions.

Copies Available: The FONSI and Mitigation Action Plan, in addition to the previously-completed Supplemental EA and 2017 EA, are available on BPA's website at www.bpa.gov/goto/HillsCreekLookoutPoint. If you previously requested a copy of the FONSI and Mitigation Action Plan, they are enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of any of these documents, 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 environmental process, please contact the Environmental Protection Specialist, Beth Belanger, Flux Resources, LLC., toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-7579, or by e-mail at babelanger@bpa.gov.

If you have other questions or would like more project information, please call me at the toll-free number listed above, directly at 360-619-6571, or by e-mail at jtflansburg@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffrey Flansburg

Jeffrey Flansburg

Transmission Project Manager