



Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION**

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

**BNSF, Bridgeport
Morrill County, Nebraska**

DOE/EA-2288

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration

ACTION: Finding of No Significant Impact

SUMMARY: The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) is proposing to construct a viaduct where U.S. Highway 26 (US-26) / Nebraska Highway 92 (N-92) crosses the BNSF Railway's (BNSF) railroad tracks in Bridgeport, Morrill County, Nebraska. This federal-aid project is led by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as the lead federal agency, with NDOT serving as the Project sponsor and Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) as a cooperating agency.

The purpose of this project is to eliminate conflicts between trains and vehicles at the existing at-grade railroad crossing. Four alternatives were analyzed. Alternative 2 was chosen to be the Preferred Alternative because of fewer impacts to neighborhoods during construction, less time required for traffic to run on temporary roads during construction, better access to neighborhood businesses after construction is complete, and a lower project cost.

The construction of the preferred Alternative requires relocation of two WAPA transmission line poles, 282 and 284A, and related above ground utility work at poles 280 and 284B. WAPA will complete the structure installations and modification in the fall of 2026, prior to the construction of the viaduct. No wetland or floodplains will be impacted while completing this project.

The draft EA was released for public review and comment on April 24, 2025, on NDOT's website. The public comment period for the draft EA concluded on May 29, 2025. FWHA's Final EA and FONSI were approved on December 23, 2025, and posted on the NDOT's website. There were no design changes resulting from public comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Additional information and copies of the EA and this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available to all interested parties and the public from the following contact:

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A copy of the Final EA and this FONSI are also available on the following website:

<https://www.wapa.gov/about-wapa/regions/rm/rm-environment/bnsf-bridgeport/>

DETERMINATION: Based on the analysis contained in DOE/EA- 2288, WAPA's federal action of relocating two (2) structures and completing above ground utility work on two (2) other structures within WAPA's transmission line ROW does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Thus, the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required, and WAPA is issuing this FONSI. The Final EA is approved concurrent with this FONSI.

Issued at Loveland, Colorado, on March 4, 2026.

Barton V. Barnhart
Senior Vice President and
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