



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, Washington 98666-0491

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

April 12, 2012

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-3

**To: People Interested in the Albany-Eugene 115-kilovolt No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild Project.**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Albany-Eugene 115-kilovolt No. 1 Transmission Line Rebuild Project.

This Final EIS is enclosed if you previously requested it. If you did not receive a copy of the Final EIS with this letter and you would like one, please call our toll-free document request line: 1-800-622-4520. Leave a message naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address. Information about this project, including a link to the Final EIS, is also available on our website at:

[http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/Document\\_Library/Albany-Eugene\\_Rebuild/](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Albany-Eugene_Rebuild/)

**Proposal:** BPA proposes to rebuild a 32-mile section of the Albany-Eugene 115-kilovolt No. 1 Transmission Line. No major work has been done on the line since it was originally built in 1940. Many of the structures, the electric wire (conductor), and associated structural components (cross arms, insulators, and dampers) are physically worn and structurally unsound in places. These wood transmission poles have lasted beyond the expected 55 to 60 years, and now need to be replaced due to age, rot, and deterioration. Based on the deteriorated condition of this line, there is a need to rebuild the line to maintain reliable electrical service and to avoid risks to the safety of the public and maintenance crews.

Proposed activities would include establishing temporary access to the line, improving some access roads, removing danger trees, removing and replacing existing wood pole structures and associated structural components and conductor, and revegetating areas disturbed by construction activities. The existing structures would be replaced with structures of similar design in the same location. The line would continue to operate at 115-kilovolts. BPA is also considering a no action alternative, that is, BPA would not rebuild the transmission line but continue to maintain it as needed.

**Comments Received:** We received two comments on the Draft EIS. They are responded to in the Final EIS.

**Next Steps:** With the final EIS complete, we will next produce a Record of Decision (ROD) that documents BPA's decision about whether to proceed with the project and, if so, which alternative was selected. BPA expects to issue its ROD during Spring 2012. If BPA decides to build the project, construction activities could begin as early as June 2012 after all necessary permits and approvals are obtained.

**For More Information:** If you need more information or have any questions about the project, please call me toll free at 1-800-622-4519, or e-mail me at [etorth@bpa.gov](mailto:etorth@bpa.gov). If you would like more information about the Final EIS please call Douglas Corkran toll free at 1-800-622-4519, or by e-mail at [dfcorkran@bpa.gov](mailto:dfcorkran@bpa.gov). Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Erich T. Orth*

Erich T. Orth  
Project Manager