



## Department of Energy

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

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

February 21, 2014

In reply refer to: KEC-4

### **To: People interested in the Keeler to Tillamook Transmission Line Rebuild**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Keeler to Tillamook Transmission Line Rebuild. Based on the Final 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 the Keeler-Forest Grove and Forest Grove-Tillamook 115-kilovolt (kV) transmission lines between the cities of Hillsboro and Tillamook in Washington and Tillamook counties, Oregon. The 58 mile-long rebuild would include replacement of all wood-pole structures over 10 years in age, including cross arms, cross braces, guy wires, anchors, insulator assemblies, switches, and overhead conductor. Some existing access roads would be improved to accommodate construction equipment and some new road access will be acquired or constructed in areas where access is not available. The line will continue to operate at 115 kV.

BPA prepared an EA to help the agency determine if the Proposed Action would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BPA released the preliminary EA for public review and comment in November 2013 and received fifteen comment letters. The final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the Proposed Action will not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

**Decision:** BPA has decided to proceed with the Proposed Action and will conduct the rebuild as described in the final EA. Project construction is expected to begin in April 2014 and be completed by January 2015.

**For More Information:** The final EA, FONSI, and Mitigation Action Plan are enclosed if you previously requested them. If you did not receive a copy of any of these documents and would like one, 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. The documents are also available on BPA's website at [www.bpa.gov/goto/keelertillamook](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/keelertillamook).

If you need more information or have any questions, please call me toll free at 1-800-622-4519, or e-mail me at [rrheredia@bpa.gov](mailto:rrheredia@bpa.gov). Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Richard Heredia*

Richard Heredia  
BPA Project Manager

**Enclosures (if requested):**

Final EA  
FONSI/Mitigation Action Plan