

WELCOME

TRANSMISSION BUSINESS POLICY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

PUBLIC MEETINGS



**Transmission Business Policy
Environmental Impact Statement**

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2004**
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
State Office Building
Room 120 C
800 NE Oregon Street
Portland, Ore.
- **Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2004**
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Comfort Suites (Downtown Seattle)
601 Roy Street
Seattle, Wash.
- **Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004**
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Quality Inn Oakwood
7919 N. Division Street
Spokane, Wash.



PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2004**
1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Public Service Commission
Bollinger Conference Room
1701 Prospect Ave.
(Vista Building)
Helena, Mont.

- **Thursday, Feb. 26, 2004**
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Statehouse Inn
981 Grove Street
Boise, ID



PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Public Meetings	—————	January 13, 14 and 15, 2004 (Additional meetings are being scheduled for Montana and Idaho)
Public Comment	—————	Comments due by March 31, 2004
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Available	—————	September 2004
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) Available	—————	May 2005
Record of Decision	—————	June 2005



NEED AND PURPOSE

Background

- The electric utility industry has been changing rapidly. New rules and regulations will govern how the industry will meet future challenges. New ideas, technologies and methodologies will provide for different opportunities to meet the growing needs of the Northwest.

Need

- BPA needs a more comprehensive policy(ies) to guide the development and operation of the Federal Columbia River Transmission System.

Purpose

- Assure an adequate, economic, efficient, safe and reliable transmission system to supply power to the Pacific Northwest.
- Ensure open transmission access.
- Encourage consideration of non-wires solutions.
- Fulfill environmental and social obligations, such as protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife, leadership in conservation and renewables development.
- Continue to meet statutory mandates and BPA's Federal treaty and trust responsibilities with Indian Tribes.
- Preserve and balance the economic and environmental benefits of the Columbia River Federal Power System.

The need and purpose statement are subject to change based on public input.



Transmission Business Policy Environmental Impact Statement

DESCRIPTION

The Transmission Business Policy EIS will:

- Provide a comprehensive and cumulative analysis to inform policy development regarding potential transmission-related actions.
- Enhance and inform future decision-making surrounding increasingly complex transmission challenges.
- Build on BPA's existing environmental analyses to more comprehensively reflect current and future industry trends.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Land, water and air issues such as land use, water quality and air quality.
- Social and economic effects.
- Tribal issues including cultural and natural resources.
- Other effects such as aesthetics and electric and magnetic fields (EMF).



DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVES

- BPA is asking for public input to help develop alternatives.
- This EIS will identify a broad range of policy directions structured around key transmission policy considerations including:
 - Planning
 - Construction
 - Operation
 - Maintenance
 - Marketing



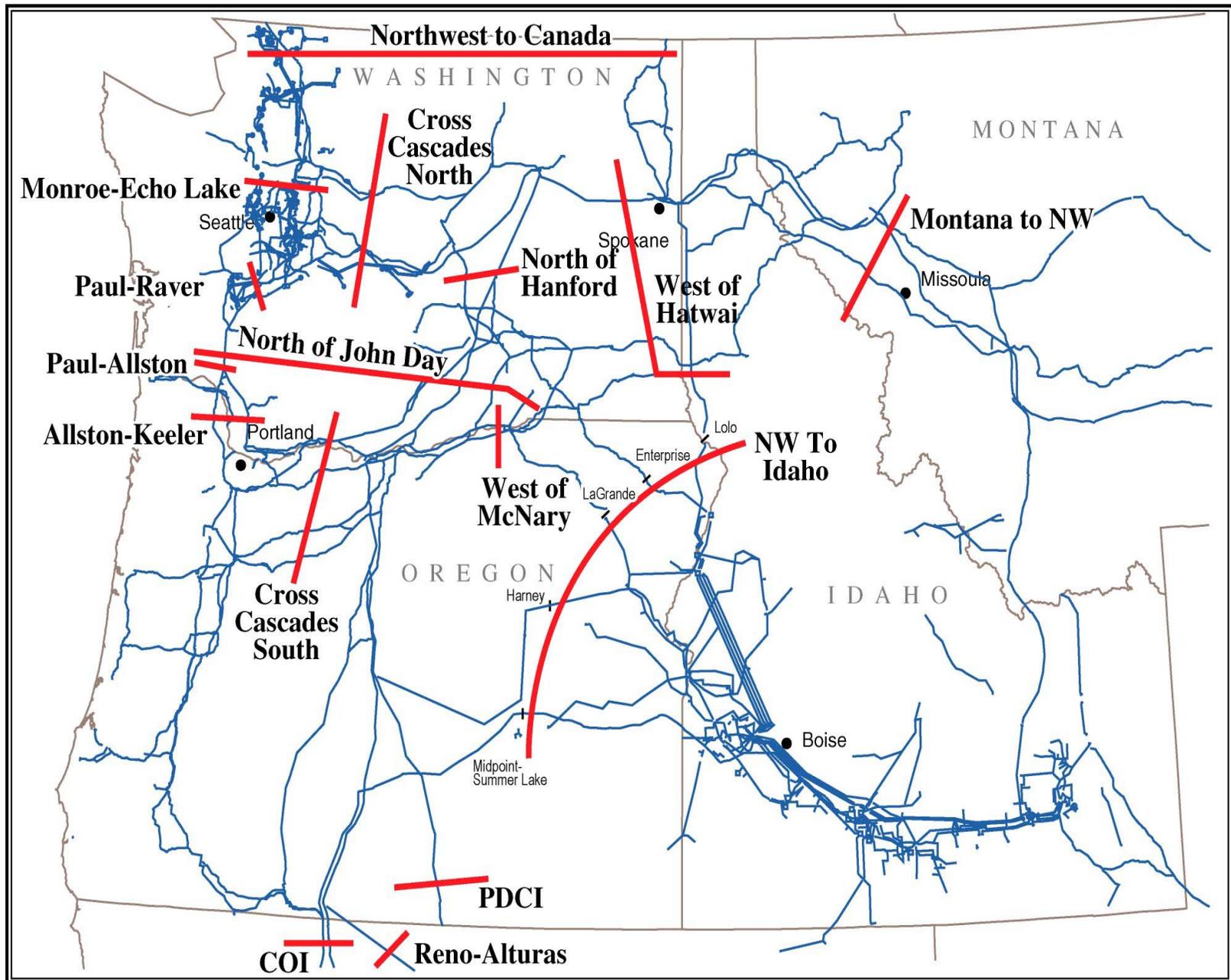
PLANNING PROCESSES

- Planning process generally looks out five years or more, depending on load growth and resource siting needs.
 - Planning studies are based on standard industry rules and practices.
 - Planning models include load forecasts and typical generation patterns.
 - Snapshots and scenarios are developed to capture a range of conditions.
 - Alternative plans to solve identified problems are developed and evaluated (including non-wires solutions).
- Available transmission capacity calculations inform planning assumptions as needed.
- Evolving Regional Planning processes:
 - Seams Steering Group-Western Interconnection (SSG-WI)
 - Northwest Power Pool
 - Regional Transmission Organization



TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

Potential NW Constrained Paths



Note: Other Potentially Constrained Paths may be identified over time.



**Transmission Business Policy
Environmental Impact Statement**

ADEQUACY ISSUES

BPA is trying to determine what the adequacy (acceptable reliability) standards should be.

Following are some questions:

- How should BPA balance keeping the lights on, minimizing costs and avoiding price volatility?
- Are BPA's present standards appropriate? May change due to Aug. 14, 2003 East Coast blackout?
- Is adequacy a BPA or region-wide concept?
- Who takes the risks of inadequacy and cost recovery?
- Should pricing and other market approaches be used to address transmission needs?



NON-WIRES SOLUTIONS

- Before building a new transmission line, BPA examines whether measures such as demand response, conservation or local generation could effectively defer or eliminate the need for a transmission line.
- BPA formed a Round Table of regional stakeholders as a forum to identify and respond to key issues.
- BPA is launching pilot programs to better understand measures.
- BPA developed screening criteria as a first test to determine if non-wires solutions are potentially suitable for a particular situation.
- BPA and the Round Table continue to work on institutional barriers to deploying non-wires solutions.
- More information about the Round Table is available on line at: (http://www2.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Non-Construction_Round_Table/)



HOW TO COMMENT AFTER THE MEETING

- **Write:** Bonneville Power Administration
Communications Office – DM-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428
- **E-Mail:** comment@bpa.gov
- **Call:** 1-888-276-7790
- **FAX:** 503-230-3285
- **Last day to comment:** March 31, 2004

*Please reference the “Transmission Business
Policy Environmental Impact Statement”
in all communications*

Thank you for participating!



**Transmission Business Policy
Environmental Impact Statement**

Transmission Business Policy Environmental Impact Statement

"I'd like to tell you . . . "

1. Please have your environmental studies look at:

2. I need more information about:

3. I have these other comments:

Please put me on your project mailing list. (You are already on the mailing list, if you have received mailed notices.)

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Please mail your comments by March 31, 2004 to:

Bonneville Power Administration

Communications – DM -7

PO. Box 14428

Portland, OR 97293 –4428

Or email them to: comments@bpa.gov



Transmission Business Policy Environmental Impact Statement