

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MEETING SET TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE IN THE NORTH STEENS MOUNTAIN AREA

HINES, Oregon – An additional public meeting to discuss a proposed 29-mile, 230 kilovolt transmission line in the North Steens Mountain Area has been scheduled for Friday, September 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office in Hines.

The proposed transmission line would ultimately be used to convey power generated from wind farms proposed for development on private land on the north side of Steens Mountain. The transmission line would cross BLM, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and private lands.

Four other public meetings were held in mid-July 2009, in Diamond, Frenchglen, Burns, and Bend, Oregon. Each public meeting allows those attending to review the transmission line proposal, suggest alternatives and discuss issues with BLM and Malheur National Wildlife Refuge resource specialists and the project proponents.

Formal comments on the proposed project will be accepted at the September 18 meeting. If you have already attended one of the meetings or have provided scoping comments it is not necessary to attend this final meeting as no additional information has surfaced relative to the proposal. If you have yet to submit comments, you can still provide input by mail to:

North Steens Transmission Line Project Lead, Burns District BLM
28910 Highway 20 West
Hines, OR 97738

by fax to (541) 573-4411;

or by email to: OR_Burns_NS_Transmission_Line_EIS@blm.gov

Public scoping comments will be used to focus the environmental analysis of the proposed transmission line construction. A summary of the project proposal and the official comment form can be found online at:

www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns/plans/index.php

For more information, or to have your name added to the North Steens Transmission Line Project mailing list, please call (541) 573-4443.

About the BLM: The BLM manages more land – 256 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

