

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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BLM
Burns District Office

Final EIS Released for North Steens Power Line

Hines, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District has released the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed North Steens Transmission Line Project (Project).

The Project is a 29-mile, 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line that would convey power generated from wind energy projects proposed for development on private land on the north side of Steens Mountain.

The Final EIS incorporates revisions resulting from public review of the Draft EIS, released in July 2010. The document analyzes the proposed route, two deviations of the proposed route, a north route, a 115-kV construction alternative, and a “No Action” alternative. The North Route has been identified as the lead agency’s (BLM) preferred alternative in the Final EIS. Because the wind energy projects and transmission line on private land are connected actions under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Final EIS also analyzes the effects of these proposed facilities. Management for conservation purposes remains an important part of the planning, analysis, and decision-making strategy.

Compact discs containing the Final EIS are available at the BLM Burns District Office. The document is also available online at:

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

Copies of the Final EIS are available for review at the Burns District Office and at the Harney County, Bend Public, and Multnomah County libraries during regular business hours. The BLM and USFWS decisions on the project are scheduled for release this year. For further information about the Final EIS or to have your name added to the project mailing list, contact North Steens Transmission Line Project Lead at (541) 573-4400.

Contact information:

Mail or deliver to:
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Attention North Steens
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The BLM, an agency of the Department of the Interior, manages more land – 245 million acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this land is managed for multiple uses, such as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production; the BLM also conserves natural, historical, and cultural resources on these lands. The NRCS (formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service), an agency of the Department of Agriculture, works with private landowners through conservation planning and assistance to ensure that rangeland resources are managed in a sustainable manner.

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