

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1103 N. Fancher • Spokane Valley, WA 99212 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane>

For Immediate Release: January 8, 2010

Contact: Scott Pavey (509) 536-1200
Release No: OR130-FY2010-005

Comments Sought on Proposed Transmission Line to Cross Grant, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties

Spokane, Wash. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Army Yakima Training Center (YTC) are joint lead Federal agencies in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will address potential effects of a proposal by Pacific Power to construct new transmission lines in Grant, Kittitas, and Yakima Counties, Washington.

Pacific Power is proposing to construct 38 miles of new 230 kilovolt kV transmission line to provide more reliable power to the Yakima region. The new line would run from Pacific Power's existing Pomona Heights substation east of Selah, Washington, to the Bonneville Power Administration's existing Vantage substation east of the Wanapum Dam on the Columbia River. The proposed route is generally parallel and south of an existing transmission line, and proposes to cross approximately four miles of BLM administered public land, 19 miles of the YTC, and 15 miles of private land. Pacific Power has submitted applications for rights-of-way for the use and occupation of BLM and YTC-administered lands.

Public comments on the proposal must be submitted by **March 8, 2010** to:

By email: OR_Wenatchee_Mail@blm.gov (please specify Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS in the subject line).

By mail or hand-delivered: BLM Wenatchee Field Office, ATTN: Vantage to Pomona Heights EIS, 915 Walla Walla Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington 98801-1521.

All comments must include the commenter's name and street address. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The public is also invited to attend open house meetings:

- 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. -- Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at the Selah Civic Center, 216 S. 1st Street, Selah, WA 98942.

Spokane District Office
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- 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. -- Thursday, February 4, 2010 at Mattawa Elementary School Cafeteria, 400 N. Boundary, Mattaway, WA 99349.

More information about this project is available on the project website at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans/vph230.php>

About the BLM

The BLM manages more land – 253 million surface 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.

