

# NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM  
Spokane District Office

## New Alternative Identified for Vantage to Pomona Heights 230kV Transmission Line Project

*Spokane, Wash.* – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Spokane District has identified a new route alternative for the Vantage to Pomona Heights 230kV electrical transmission line project. As a result of public comments received after the January 2013 release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) identifying a Preferred Alternative the BLM, Pacific Power, and the Yakima Training Center (YTC) met and identified a new route that is located largely on YTC land.

The new northern route being considered shares the same alignment along Sage Trail Road (*Route Segment 1a*) as the previous alternatives considered in the DEIS. As was done with alternatives analyzed in the DEIS, this new northern route must now be developed into an alternative and evaluated for potential impacts.

This will require a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS). The SDEIS will fully describe the new alternative and identify impacts as well as mitigation measures that could avoid or reduce potential impacts. It is anticipated that the BLM will issue the SDEIS for public review and comment in late summer or early fall of 2013, and it will be available for public comment for 45 days. Opportunities for public involvement will be announced via direct mailings, local news media outlets, and on the BLM Spokane District website.

Additional information regarding the Vantage to Pomona Heights 230kV Transmission Line Project, including detailed maps of the new northern route alternative and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available on the following BLM Spokane District website:

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

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