

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) OVERVIEW

- Pacific Power has applied for grants of right of way to construct, operate and maintain a proposed transmission line on public lands managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Army, Yakima Training Center (YTC).
- The BLM and YTC are joint lead federal agencies for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) regarding the proposed project
- NEPA is a law that requires all federal agencies to consider the potential effects of a proposed action on the human and natural environment
- In addition to the NEPA process Pacific Power will apply for all other necessary permits and approvals from other federal agencies, state agencies and local

Important milestones in the NEPA process are:

Scoping

- Solicit comments from public, stakeholders and agencies on issues, resources and alternatives to be addressed in the EIS
- 45-day comment period
- Scoping meetings

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

- Documents the environmental studies, potential impacts of the proposed action and the range of alternatives and mitigation to reduce impacts
- 45-day public review and comment period
- Public meetings

Final EIS/Record of Decision

- Addresses public and agency comments
- Identifies the agencies preferred alternative
- 30-day availability period
- Record of Decision

