

**Pilot Pacific Northwest Regional Infrastructure Team
Steering Committee Meeting/Conference Call
Meeting Summary**
Monday, April 14, 2014
1:00 to 4:00 P.M. Mountain Standard Time

TYPE OF MEETING & LOCATION	In-person Boise, Idaho at BLM Idaho State Office and Conference Call for OR & WA State Members	
HOST	Tim Murphy, Acting Idaho State Director	
FACILITATION	Julie Kale, State Management Analyst, BLM Idaho State Office	
SUMMARY PREPARED BY	Kathy Mondor, BLM Idaho Executive Assistant & Robin Estes, BLM OR/WA Program Analyst	
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN BOLD & OTHER ATTENDEES	<p><u>USDI-Bureau of Land Management (BLM)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Murphy, Acting Idaho State Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Foss, Idaho DSD Resources; Alternate Steering Committee Member <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theresa Hanley, OR/WA Associate State Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robin Estes, OR/WA Program Analyst for Land, Minerals and Energy Resources; Coordinating Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renee Straub, B2H Project Coordinator Vale District, OR/WA BLM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tamara Gertsch, B2H National Project Manager, Realty Specialist, WO BLM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Sutter, Wildlife Biologist, National Transmission Support Team, ID BLM <p><u>USDI-Office of the Secretary</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allison O'Brien, Regional Environmental Officer, Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance (OEPC) <p><u>USDI-Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theresa Rabot, Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Service, Region 1 	<p><u>Idaho State Governor's Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Chatburn, Administrator of Governor's Office of Energy Resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Pugrud, Governor's Office <p><u>Oregon State Governor's Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annette Liebe, Director of Regional Solutions <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Howard, Special Projects Coordinator; Coordinating Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Schwartz, Director Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Cornett, Siting Division Administrator, ODOE <p><u>Washington State Governor's Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesus Sanchez, Director of the Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance (ORIA) <input type="checkbox"/> Alan Bogner, Supervisor, ORIA; Coordinating Staff <p><u>Western Governors Association (WGA)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris McKinnon, Deputy Director
HANDOUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final meeting agenda, final notes from last meeting dated 3/28/2014, copy of the proposed financial assistance agreement for the cooperative agreement between the PNWRIT and the WGA; briefing materials including maps for the Vantage to Pomona Heights and B2H Transmission Line projects; and mitigation materials from Jason Sutter & Nika Lepek. 	

AGENDA TOPICS

WELCOME, AGENDA REVIEW AND INTRODUCTIONS	TIM MURPHY
WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Murphy conducted a roll call (introductions) and welcomed everyone. • Allison O'Brien introduced herself. Allison is the new Steering Committee Member representing the DOI's Office of the Secretary. In her role as the Regional Environmental Officer for OEPC she coordinates with all the DOI agencies in the

	<p>states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington. OEPC’s goal is that all DOI agencies are speaking with one voice when representing the Secretary of the Interior.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annette Liebe introduced herself to the PNWRIT. Annette is also a new Steering Committee Member replacing Greg Wolf as the Oregon Governor’s Director for Regional Solutions.
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<p>AGENDA ITEMS, DISCUSSIONS & DECISIONS</p>	<p>STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS & STAFF</p>
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<p>AGENDA ITEMS, DISCUSSIONS AND/OR DECISIONS</p>	<p>1. Update on the proposal to enter into a Cooperative Agreement (CA) between PNWRIT and the WGA for Technical and Administrative Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robin Estes (BLM) and Chris McKinnon (WGA) briefed the PNWRIT on the status of the proposed CA between the PNWRIT and WGA. The purpose of the CA and financial assistance agreement is to recognize and support the common goals and objectives of the PNWRIT and WGA’s Transmission Siting Task Force and Wildlife Council. The goal is to facilitate improved coordination, development and dissemination of information pertaining to the transmission siting process. <p>The CA will provide the opportunity to leverage and support the efforts underway by the WGA Transmission Siting Task Force and Wildlife Council by offering the opportunity to “field test” WGA’s tools, best practices, mitigation strategies, etc., on the PNWRIT’s priority projects. For fiscal years 2014 through 2015 the priority PNWRIT projects are Idaho Power Company’s proposed Boardman to Hemingway 500 kV Transmission Line Project in the states of Idaho and Oregon and Pacific Power’s proposed Vantage to Pomona Heights 230 kV Transmission Line Project in Washington State.</p> <p>This proposal leverages the use of WGA’s existing contractor (TetraTech), which provides technical and administrative support to the WGA Transmission Siting Task Force, to support PNWRIT meetings and integrate/apply the Transmission Siting Task Force analyses and findings (including the RAPID Toolkit) to the PNWRIT’s priority projects for fiscal years 2014 through 2015. See handout “Final_PNWRIT_WGA_PO_SPI Worksheet_3.18.2014.doc.” for full text.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM will assume the cost of this financial assistance agreement for the first year and may ask the other PNWRIT members for assistance in the future. The CA and financial assistance agreement will be evaluated at the end of each full year to determine if objectives are being achieved, if modifications need to be made and/or if the agreements should be terminated. • The estimated award date for the financial assistance agreement is June 13, 2014. • Tim Murphy stated at the beginning of meeting that the PNWRIT would need administrative and technical support to be successful in the future and the Steering Committee agreed that this proposal had merit and should be pursued. • John Chatburn asked Chris McKinnon (WGA) if Chris would be making a presentation on this proposal at the next WGA Annual Meeting coming up in June 2014. Chris responded yes and John asked that Idaho Governor’s Office continue to be kept in the loop.
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2. Briefing, Update & Strike Team Decision on the Vantage to Pomona Heights 230 kV Transmission Line Project

- Robin Estes presented an overview of the project including its history (started in 2008); the project's NEPA schedule and how it was collaboratively developed by the Cooperating Agencies, the BLM and Pacific Power; the project's organizational chart/structure, rationale for the various teams, committees, and subgroups and the function and membership of these groups.
- Jesus and Robin described their NEPA/SEPA coordination approach and their efforts in successfully securing SEPA Co- leads for the project while maintaining the existing NEPA schedule.
- Robin and Jason described BLM's approach in responding to the wildlife agencies (WDFW & USFWS) requests to consider undergrounding portions of the proposed transmission line based on their concerns for the existing sage-grouse population on the US Army's Yakima Training Center (YTC). In the SDEIS BLM is analyzing impacts of both underground and overhead transmission line construction as design options that can be compared and contrasted in the environmental document. Jason described the various sage-grouse issues related to this project and the specific challenges to this sage-grouse population.
- Robin asked that Jesus speak to his thoughts on standing up a "strike team" for this project. Jesus expressed that he didn't find the need for a strike team at this time and that the current organizational structure, which includes him as the Washington State Governor's representative on the project's Steering Committee, was adequate and functioning as a strike team would. The existing project Steering Committee is comprised of the managers of all the federal, state and county governmental entities who will be required to make a decision, issue a permit and/or right-of-way for the project. Should an issue arise that could benefit from the involvement of the PNWRIT, such as those relating to sage-grouse mitigation challenges and/or opportunities, he will request the assistance/counsel of the PNWRIT Steering Committee.
- John Chatburn stated that if Jesus doesn't see the need to stand up a strike team for the Vantage to Pomona Heights Project that he doesn't. The rest of the PNWRIT agreed that a strike team would not be established for this Project at this time.

3. Briefing, Update & Strike Team Decision on the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) Transmission Line Project

- John Chatburn (ID), Todd Cornett (ODOE), Tamara Gertsch (BLM) and Renee Straub (BLM) provided a briefing and update on the project including the project's proposed NEPA and ODOE Site Certificate Application (ACS) processing schedules, the project organizational chart/structure, a review of the map with proposed transmission line alternatives and issues (historical and current) that have impacted the project's progress.
- John Chatburn adamantly expressed his need to be more involved in the project as it is a high priority for the Idaho Governor in developing energy resources in the state. John Chatburn, Tamara Gertsch, Renee Straub and Todd Cornett will work on improving the coordination and communication protocols for the project. This

	<p>includes John Chatburn, Scott Pugrud and Todd Cornett joining and participating in the monthly “Project Managers Coordination Call” lead by BLM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Chatburn also requested that BLM provide him with information related to the recent NEPA consultant change orders for additional visual analysis and preparation of a second ADEIS which are pending approval by the proponent Idaho Power Company. John stated that he would likely request a meeting with DOI’s Office of the Secretary in the near future to discuss his concerns. • Todd Cornett shared and explained ODOE’s ACS process and schedule for the project. He went into some detail regarding the impact and mitigation requirements for biological and cultural resources. These resources have been identified by ODOE as high priority resources that need immediate state-federal coordination due to apparent schedule and/or policy differences in the ASC and NEPA processes. (Note: for more information on this see ODOE’s handouts.) It was agreed that BLM and ODOE will continue to coordinate to resolve these differences, where possible, and reflect the resolution(s) in the NEPA and ASC schedules. • A decision to stand up a strike team <u>was not</u> made at meeting as the focus was on improving the coordination and communication between the Idaho Governor’s Office, BLM and ODOE. <p>4. Agenda Items Postponed Until Next Steering Committee Meeting on July 14, 2014, from 12:00 to 3:00 PM PST, USFWS Office in Portland, Oregon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USFWS Briefing on Status and Substance of their “Greater Sage-Grouse Range-Wide Compensatory Mitigation Framework” by Theresa Rabot • Briefing/discussion lead by Jason Sutter, Wildlife Biologist on BLM’s National Transmission Team assigned to both the Vantage to Pomona and Boardman to Hemingway projects, as to the approach and status of mitigation framework development on these two projects and BLM’s Regional Mitigation policy in general. • Brainstorm potential cross-jurisdictional, landscape level mitigation opportunities and tools that could be applied to these projects. Including a short discussion of several tools by Nika Lepak, BLM ID.
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ACTION ITEMS

Action items	Person responsible	Due date
1. Include John Chatburn, Scott Pugrud and Todd Cornett on the monthly B2H Project Managers Coordination Call.	Renee /Tamara	Starting May 2014 & Ongoing
2. BLM Project Manager conference call with Idaho Governor’s Office regarding pending NEPA Consultant Change Orders on B2H Project. Determine if future meeting with DOI is needed.	Tamara/John	4/25/2014
3. Provide Annette with B2H Project Schedule Work Plan.	Tamara/Todd	4/25/2014

4. Prepare and distribute draft PNWRIT meeting summary to Steering Committee members	Kathy/Julie/Robin	4/25/2014
5. Steering Committee submits edits, additions, comments, etc. on draft meeting summary to Robin.	Steering Committee Members	May 2, 2014
6. Finalize meeting summary and redistribute to Steering Committee.	Robin	May 7, 2014
7. Plan the next PNWRIT Meeting. This meeting will be held July 14, 2014 in Portland at the USFW Office.	Teri Rabot &Robin Estes	June 2014