

SIGURD TO RED BUTTE No. 2 - 345kV TRANSMISSION PROJECT

October 2012 - Newsletter 3

BLM

This is the third in a series of newsletters from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to keep you informed about the Sigurd to Red Butte No. 2 - 345kV Transmission Project.

Project Update

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Cedar City Field Office announces that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Sigurd to Red Butte No. 2 - 345-Kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project) is now available for public review. The BLM has prepared the EIS to evaluate, analyze, and disclose to the public the effects of granting right-of-way across lands administered by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to PacifiCorp (doing business as Rocky Mountain Power) for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project and measures needed to mitigate the effects. The Final EIS also includes the written and verbal comments received during the public review period on the Draft EIS and responses to those comments. The Final EIS is available for review at the BLM Cedar City Field Office and also is available for download at the project website: www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/cedar_city/planning/sigurd_to_red_butte.html

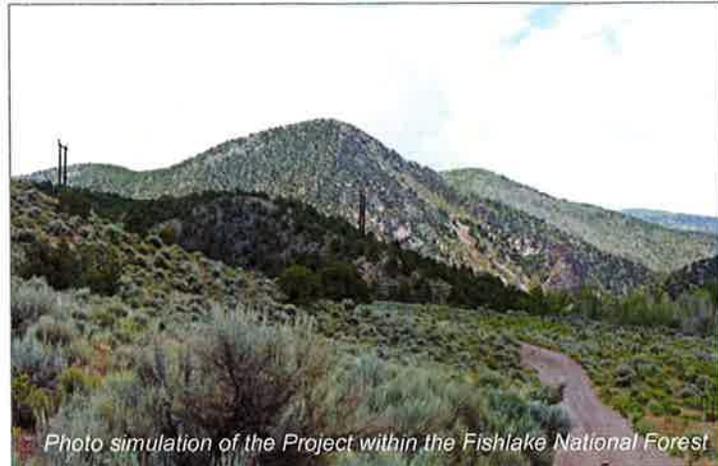


Photo simulation of the Project within the Fishlake National Forest

local agencies; various special interest groups; and individuals.

The Final EIS includes modifications and additional information provided since the Draft EIS was published in May 2011.

Project Schedule

The anticipated timeline for the Project is as follows:

- BLM and USFS Records of Decision: December 2012
- Construction: January 2013 through May 2015

For Further Information

Contact Tamara Gertsch, BLM Project Manager at (307) 775-6115, or via email at utsrproj@blm.gov.

Public Review of the Final EIS

The 30-day review period of the Final EIS begins on October 5, 2012 with the Environmental Protection Agency's publication of the Notice of Availability of the Final EIS in the *Federal Register*, and ends on November 4, 2012. While not a formal comment period, the public and agencies can submit comments on the Final EIS. Comments received during the 30-day period following publication of the Notice of Availability will be considered prior to a decision by the BLM and USFS.

Following completion of the public review of the Final EIS, the BLM and USFS will issue separate Records of Decision stating whether or not a major right-of-way grant (BLM) or special-use authorization (USFS) will be issued.

Comments on the Draft EIS

During the 45-day public comment period on the Draft EIS, the BLM hosted four open-house meetings to provide the public with an opportunity to view informational displays on the Project, discuss the Project individually with BLM and USFS staff and other representatives, and provide comments on the Draft EIS. The public open houses were held on four consecutive days from June 27 through June 30, 2011. The open houses were held in Richfield, Milford, Enterprise, and St. George, Utah, respectively. A total of 81 people attended the public open houses.

During the comment period, 41 submittals offering comments on the Draft EIS were received from various federal, state, and

