

ATTENTION: PUBLIC MEETINGS IN YOUR AREA

St. George - February 16, 2010 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Best Western Abbey Inn 1129 South Bluff St. St. George, UT	Milford - February 17, 2010 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Oak Tree Inn 777 West Highway 21 Milford, UT	Enterprise - February 17, 2010 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Enterprise High School 565 South 200 East Enterprise, UT	Richfield - February 18, 2010 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Sevier Valley Center Snow College Richfield Campus 800 West 200 South Richfield, UT
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SIGURD TO RED BUTTE No. 2 345kV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT EIS

Newsletter No. 1 - January 2010

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), will hold public scoping meetings and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on PacifiCorp's (Rocky Mountain Power) Sigurd to Red Butte No. 2 345 kilovolt(kV) Transmission Line Project right-of-way application. The scoping meetings will also address the BLM's preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for geotechnical investigations associated with this project.



Photo of existing transmission lines on Fishlake National Forest

The proposed project would establish a new, single-circuit 345kV transmission line from the Sigurd Substation near Richfield in Sevier County to the Red Butte Substation near the town of Central in Washington County. The project's associated geotechnical investigations would be required to provide information needed to design the transmission line structural foundations.

This project may affect the areas around the communities of Sigurd, Richfield, Joseph, Elsinore, Glenwood, Annabella, Monroe, Junction, Kingston, Circleville, Milford, Beaver, Newcastle, Minersville, Paragona, Parowan, Enoch, Enterprise, Pinto, Central, and Pine Valley. This is the first in a series of newsletters to inform the public about the EIS and EA for the project.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?

Southwestern Utah is one of the fastest-growing areas in Utah. Development of a new transmission line would provide additional capacity to help meet growing regional demand for electricity and improve the reliability and operational flexibility of the overall electricity delivery system.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

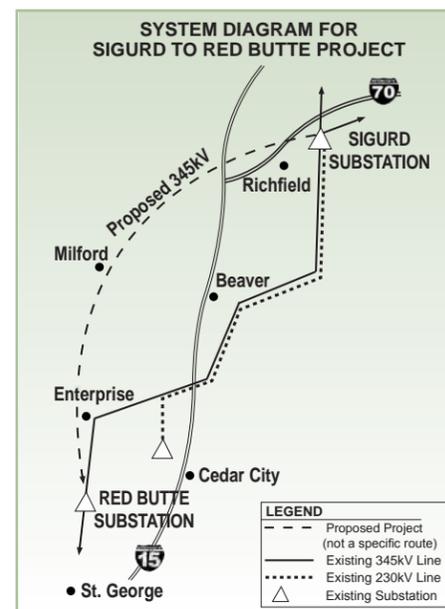
NEPA is a federal law that serves as the nation's basic charter for environmental protection. For major federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the natural, human and cultural environment, NEPA requires an EIS be prepared. An EIS provides a detailed analysis of the potential environmental impacts of a proposed action and a range of reasonable alternatives. To comprehensively address the effects of all actions associated with this project, the results documented in the geotechnical investigations EA will be incorporated into the EIS. Through the NEPA process, the public has the opportunity to learn about an agency's proposed action and to provide information and comments to the agency.

BLM Cedar City Field Office
 176 East D.L. Sargent Dr.
 Cedar City, UT 84721
 ATTN: Rob Wilson



Place Stamp Here

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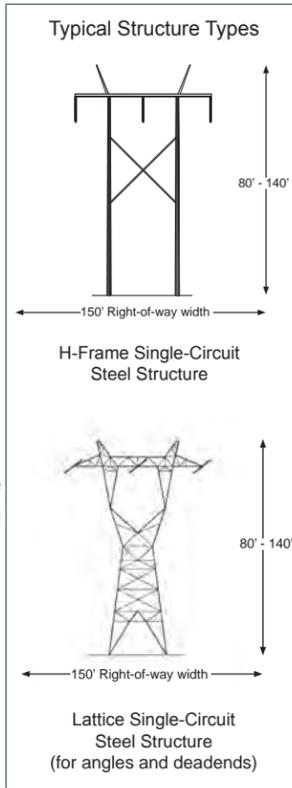


WHAT WOULD THE TRANSMISSION LINE LOOK LIKE?

The type of transmission line structure used depends on engineering design and constraints posed by land uses. The diagram to the right illustrates typical designs for the steel, single-circuit structures that would be used on this project. Depending on terrain, engineering factors, and other considerations, other structure designs could be used in specific locations.

Generally, the transmission line would consist of the following elements:

- Structure heights from 80 to 140 feet
- Spans between structures from 800 to 1,200 feet
- Right-of-way width of 150 feet
- Construction and maintenance access roads typically 14 feet wide



PROJECT TIMELINE

The anticipated timeline for the project is:

- Public scoping: 1st quarter 2010
- Draft EIS available: 1st quarter 2011
- Final EIS and Record of Decision: 3rd and 4th quarters 2011
- Right-of-way acquisition: 4th quarter 2010-2012
- Construction: 1st quarter 2012-2014

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE EIS PROCESS?

The BLM, in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service and other cooperating agencies, has developed a proactive public involvement program that will be integrated with the EIS process.

The first opportunity for public participation is during scoping. Scoping is the process by which the BLM solicits input on the issues and concerns that will be addressed and analyzed in the EIS. Scoping is open to the public and occurs early in the EIS process. Scoping for this project began with publication of the Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* on January 5, 2010. The BLM will host four open houses from 6:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m on the dates and at the locations provided.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

- St. George - February 16, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**
Best Western Abbey Inn
1129 South Bluff St.
St. George, UT
- Milford - February 17, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**
Oak Tree Inn
777 West Highway 21
Milford, UT
- Enterprise - February 17, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**
Enterprise High School
565 South 200 East
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- Richfield - February 18, 2010, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**
Sevier Valley Center
Snow Valley College
Richfield Campus
800 West 200 South
Richfield, UT

Your input and comments are valuable and important to the project. We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these open house meetings.

In addition to providing opportunities for the public to be involved, the open houses will feature displays explaining the purpose and need, project description, process of preparing the EIS, and associated schedule and maps showing the project area and environmental issues identified to date. Representatives from the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, and Rocky Mountain Power will be available to discuss the project with you. Your comments are welcome any time throughout the process. However, your comments will be most helpful to us at this early stage when we are determining which issues to address in the EIS.



Photo of Red Butte Substation

PUBLIC COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

The EIS will address the construction, operation, and maintenance of a new 160-mile-long high-voltage transmission line, access roads, and related facilities. The environmental issues already identified for analysis include potential impacts to:

- Protected, threatened, endangered, or sensitive species of plants or animals or their critical habitats
- Land use, including agricultural operations, recreation, and transportation
- Floodplains and wetlands
- Cultural or historic resources and Native American concerns
- Human health and safety
- Air, soil, and water resources (including air quality and surface water)
- Visual resources

The BLM invites you to suggest specific issues and concerns within these general categories, or to suggest other issues that should be evaluated in the EIS.

Comments may be submitted to the BLM by:

- Filling out a comment form available at the open houses

- E-mailing comments to utsrbproj@blm.gov
- Mailing comments to:
Cedar City Field Office, BLM
Attn: Rob Wilson
176 East D.L. Sargent Dr.
Cedar City, UT 84721
- Calling the project comment line at 888-666-6470 or 801-349-2893

The public scoping period runs from January 5 through March 5, 2010.

As the project progresses, the BLM will continue to inform interested parties via the following methods:

- Periodic newsletters providing updates on the project
- Periodic announcements to regional and local newspapers and radio and television stations
- Open house meetings at key milestones during the EIS process

Also, information about the project can be found on the BLM's website at:

www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/cedar_city/planning/sigurd_red_butte.html/

Detach here

SIGN UP TO REMAIN ON THE PROJECT MAILING LIST AND/OR RECEIVE THE DRAFT EIS

Once the Draft EIS is completed in the 1st quarter 2011, the document will be available at the BLM Office and on CD-ROM. Also, a copy of the document will be posted on the project website listed above.

To receive a copy of the Draft EIS, please check this box: Send me an electronic copy on CD-ROM

*To remain on the mailing list, please check this box: I wish to remain on the mailing list

CONTACT INFORMATION (Please print information clearly)

Name: _____

Representing Agency or Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

***Please note that if you do not check this box and complete and return this form, you will be automatically removed from the mailing list.**