

MONA TO OQUIRRH TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR PROJECT

April 2010 - Newsletter No. 4

BLM

This is the fourth newsletter regarding the Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Corridor Project. The BLM has published a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and proposed Plan Amendment (PA) that analyzes the impacts related to the development of Rocky Mountain Power's proposed Mona to Oquirrh Transmission Corridor Project in Juab, Salt Lake, Tooele, and Utah counties. The proposed project includes the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 146 miles of single-circuit 500 kilovolt (kV) and double-circuit 345 kV transmission line and two new future 500/345/138kV substations. The proposed project will require an amendment of the BLM Salt Lake Field Office *Pony Express Resource Management Plan* to allow for a major right-of-way grant outside of a designated utility corridor. This Project may affect the areas around the communities of Mona, Nephi, Eureka, Goshen, Stockton, Tooele, Grantsville, Stansbury Park, West Jordan, South Jordan, Magna, and Salt Lake City.

PROJECT UPDATE

The FEIS and proposed PA is now available for public review. The publishing of this document marks the final step in the federal environmental review process before a decision on the PA and right-of-way grant on public lands is made by the BLM. The FEIS and proposed PA is available for review at the BLM Salt Lake and Fillmore Field Offices and is also available for download at the project website: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/salt_lake/planning/mona_to_oquirrh_transmission.html.

The public will have 30 days (April 26 - May 25, 2010) to review the FEIS and submit comments and to protest the proposed PA. Concurrent to the 30-day protest period, a 60-day Governor's Consistency Review of the proposed PA will also take place. Following completion of the public review, protest period, and the Governor's Consistency Review, a Record of Decision stating whether or not the BLM will implement the proposed PA and issue a major right-of-way grant will be signed by the BLM Utah State Director.

SUMMARY OF DRAFT EIS/DRAFT PA COMMENTS

During the 90-day public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft PA, the BLM hosted three public open houses. These open house meetings provided the public with an opportunity to gather information on the project and submit comments on the DEIS and Draft PA. At the conclusion of the comment period in August 2009, the BLM received a total of 235 comments on the document. The comments received addressed various concerns including:

- Alternatives identification and analysis
- Land use and recreation
- Visual resources
- Cultural resources
- Biological resources

The FEIS and proposed PA provides responses and clarification to the substantive comments submitted.

PROJECT TIMELINE

Below is the anticipated timeline for the project:

- Record of Decision: Fall 2010
- Right-of-Way Acquisition: Fall 2009 - ongoing
- Construction: 2011-2013

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Cindy Ledbetter of the BLM Salt Lake Field Office at (801) 977-4300, or Clara Stevens of the Fillmore Field Office at (435) 743-3100, email UT_M2O_EIS@blm.gov, or visit the project website: http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/salt_lake/planning/mona_to_oquirrh_transmission.html.



IMPORTANT PROJECT INFORMATION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



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