

# Appendix Q

## Framework Emergency Response Preparedness and Response Plan

### Gateway West Transmission Line Project

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Rocky Mountain Power and Idaho Power Company (Companies) are proposing to construct and operate approximately 1,000 miles of new 230-kilovolt (kV), 345-kV and 500-kV alternating current (AC) electric transmission system consisting of 10 segments between the Windstar Substation at Glenrock, Wyoming, and the Hemingway Substation approximately 30 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho. The proposed transmission line is needed to supplement existing transmission lines in order to relieve operating limitations, increase capacity, and improve reliability in the existing electric transmission grid, allowing for the delivery of up to 1,500 megawatts (MW) of additional energy for the Companies' larger service areas and to other interconnected systems. The Project includes ground-disturbing activities associated with the construction of above-ground, single-circuit transmission lines involving towers, access roads, staging areas, fly yards, pulling sites as well as associated substations, communication sites, and electrical supply distribution lines. The Project crosses private land and public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and the states of Idaho and Wyoming.

The Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan Framework is intended to provide an overview of methods to be implemented if the need for emergency management is imminent. This document discusses the existing support structure, chain of command, and emergency communications protocols to be used as a guide for an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan to be completed by the Companies' Construction Contractor and approved by the BLM. More specific emergency procedures for blasting, fire, and hazardous materials are included in Appendices M – Framework Blasting Plan, O - Framework Fire Prevention and Suppression Plan, and P – Framework Hazardous Materials Management Plan.

Emergency response procedures will be implemented for the following potential events, or similar events:

- Downed transmission lines, structures, or equipment failure
- Fires
- Sudden loss of power
- Natural disasters
- Serious personal injury

## 2.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan is to provide clear procedures and information to enable the Companies, the Construction Contractor, the Compliance Inspection Contractor (CIC), and BLM Project Manager to prepare for and effectively respond to emergency situations. The primary objective of this plan is to prevent adverse impacts to human health and safety, property, and the environment that could potentially occur as a result of the construction, operation, and maintenance of Gateway West Transmission Line Project (Project).

### 3.0 REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Health and safety guidelines related to high-voltage transmission lines are provided by a number of sources, including the National Electric Safety Code, American National Standards Institute, American Medical Association Council on Scientific Affairs, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, various state regulations, and other organizations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) also provide regulations for construction activities.

### 4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Companies and the Construction Contractor are responsible for the effective response to any emergency situation or event related to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Project. To ensure a coordinated and effective response, a chain of command will be developed as part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and followed in the event of an emergency.

In the establishment of a chain of command, considerations such as the level of activation and the participation necessary to respond to specific situations are to be taken into account. The following are factors for the establishment of a chain of command:

- Type of event (natural, environmental, electrical supply/outage, external forces)
- Severity and geographic area (multiple or combination of events)
- Anticipated duration
- Multi-division/discipline response required
- External agency coordination

### 5.0 RESPONSE COORDINATION

The amount of resources and coordination required for response to a specific hazard or emergency is determined by type, severity, location, and duration of the event. Most events require managing at the field operations level and will require increasing resource requirements to match the severity and duration of the event. This emergency management organization will be included as part of this Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and will provide increasing levels of resources and the coordination necessary to support immediate or escalating emergency events.

In the event of an emergency, crews will be dispatched quickly to repair or replace any damaged equipment. Repair of the transmission line will have priority under emergency conditions and all reasonable efforts will be made to protect plants, wildlife, and other resources. Reclamation procedures following completion of repair work will be similar to those prescribed during construction.

### 6.0 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Effective communication and exchange of information is essential in every emergency response. Misdirected, incorrect, or untimely information can be detrimental and even increase the threat to life or property. As an emergency event escalates, the rapid increase of information creates chaos and confusion. Simple communication diagrams can help to alleviate this situation.

1 **6.1 Emergency Contact List**

2 **In case of emergency, call 911 first.** Additional potential emergency contacts are listed in  
 3 Table 6-1 and should be called as appropriate, depending on the situation (e.g., fire, injury).  
 4 Further guidance on emergency response, notification, and reporting protocols are included in  
 5 Appendices M – Framework Blasting Plan, O - Framework Fire Prevention and Suppression  
 6 Plan, and P – Framework Hazardous Materials Management Plan.

7 **Table Q- 1.** Emergency Contact List

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>IN CASE OF EMERGENCY - Call 911</b>   |  |  |
| <b>FIRE – Call 911 First</b>   |  |  |
| <b>Counties:</b><br><u>Primary Contact:</u><br>TBD<br><u>Secondary Contact:</u><br>TBD   | <b>BLM Field Offices:</b><br>TBD<br>USFS Ranger Districts<br>TBD             | <b>State Interagency Fire Centers:</b><br>TBD      |
| <b>LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>   |  |  |
| <b>County Sheriffs:</b><br>TBD   | <b>State Highway Patrols:</b><br>TBD   |  |
| <b>POISON CONTROL</b>  |  |  |
| <b>National/State Poison Control Centers:</b><br>TBD   |  |  |
| <b>HOSPITALS AND CLINICS</b>   |  |  |
| <b>County and Municipal as Applicable:</b><br>TBD  |  |  |
| <b>HAZARDOUS SPILL RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION – Call 911</b>  |  |  |
| Directly after 911 notification, the following mandatory notifications will be made by the CIC. Select and notify the appropriate government agencies based on geographic location of the spill site. Also see Appendix P – Framework Hazardous Materials Management Plan. |  |  |
| <b>Counties:</b><br>TBD  | <b>State Divisions of Emergency Services &amp; Homeland Security:</b><br>TBD | <b>National Response Center:</b><br>TBD            |
| <b>State Departments of Environmental Quality:</b><br>TBD  |  |  |
| <b>OTHER NUMBERS</b>   |  |  |
| <b>Counties Fire Dispatch</b><br>TBD   | <b>BLM Authorized Officer or Representative:</b><br>TBD                      | <b>The Construction Contractor Manager:</b><br>TBD |

8  
 9 This Emergency Contact List shall be verified at the beginning of construction and  
 10 updated throughout the Project by the Construction Contractor to ensure accurate  
 11 contact information.

12 **7.0 HAZARD IDENTIFICATIONS AND KEY RESPONSE CRITERIA**

13 The right-of-way corridor for the Project can pose potential hazards or threats in  
 14 association with construction activities. The most effective response to any situation is  
 15 awareness of the hazard, its potential effects and consequences, and an understanding  
 16 of the resources and actions necessary to respond. It would be unreasonable to list all  
 17 the potential hazards and detail each response. Responses to different events may vary

- 1 as the event evolves, but response methods and responsibilities to be determined in the
- 2 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan will be essential for any possible
- 3 situation.
- 4 Effective Emergency Response training is based on plausible scenarios and then
- 5 developing the understanding, elements, and actions necessary to respond. Scenarios
- 6 to consider are electrocution, fatality, massive equipment failure, structure failure,
- 7 weather/environment, etc.