

**SCOPING STATEMENT  
THE BELFRY TO CLARK  
ELECTRICAL 69 kV  
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT  
WYW-162998  
MTM-95236**

OCT 16 2006

Beartooth Electric Cooperative Inc. has applied to the Cody and Billings Field Offices of the Bureau of Land Management for an electric power line right-of-way grant across public lands in the Clark, Wyoming, and Belfry, Montana areas. The project proposal involves placement of an above ground 69 kV transmission power line for approximately 21 miles, of which 10.3 miles would cross federal land. The power line would bring power from the existing Belfry power substation to a new substation on private land in the Clark area. Initially, electrical power would be transferred from the new substation locally by underbuilding of existing overhead transmission lines, with additional new feeder power lines constructed over time.

The structures within the 69 kV right-of-way across federal land would consist of the power line and single/H-frame poles. Additional technical information concerning the project is available from the Cody Field Office.

The attached map shows the proposed 69 kV power line route.

The power line would provide for the growing energy needs in the Clark area based on the existing electrical loads and requests for new residential and industrial service.

An additional application has been received for road access during construction associated with the right-of-way.

**National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

The BLM will prepare an environmental analysis in compliance with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations, which implement NEPA.

The environmental analysis will serve several purposes.

It will:

- Inform the public and governmental agencies of potential environmental consequences;
- Identify practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm; and
- Provide sufficient information for BLM to approve or deny-the project.

One element of the NEPA process is scoping. Scoping activities apply mostly to the public land associated with the pipeline and are initiated early in the process to:

- identify reasonable alternatives to be evaluated in the environmental analysis;
- identify environmental issues of concern related to the proposed project; and
- determine the depth of analysis for issues addressed in the environmental analysis

This scoping statement has been prepared to enable governmental agencies, the general public, and other interested parties to participate in and contribute to the analysis process. Public input is important in establishing the scope of analysis for any NEPA document, and the BLM encourages public participation.

**Scoping Meeting:**

An open-house public meeting will be held if there is enough public interest.

**Timing Needs or Requirements**

All submissions from individuals or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Comments are due by close of business on Monday, November 20, 2006.

Please submit your written comments to:

Duane Feick, Project Manager  
BLM – Cody Field Office  
PO Box 518  
Cody, WY 82414

This project is a joint effort between the Cody and Billings Field Offices, with the Cody Field Office being the main point of contact.

307.578.5900

E-mail: [cody\\_wymail@blm.gov](mailto:cody_wymail@blm.gov).

Additional information will be posted on [http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cyfodocs/beartooth\\_powerline](http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cyfodocs/beartooth_powerline), as it becomes available.

Michael Blymyer, Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
Cody Field Office  
Box 518  
1002 Blackburn Avenue  
Cody, Wyoming 82414

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael J. Blymyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Michael J. Blymyer  
Field Manager, Cody

Sandra S. Brooks  
Bureau of Land Management  
Billings Field Office  
5001 Southgate Drive  
Billings, MT 59101

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra S. Brooks". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sandra S. Brooks  
Field Manager, Billings



Belfry - Clark 69kV transmission line

BLM Case File No. WYW-162998  
BLM Case File No. MTM-95236

Detailed maps are available from the Cody Field Office.

