

## Appendix A Pre-scoping and Scoping Materials

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# Eastern Plains Transmission Project

## Public meetings delayed, rescheduled for early 2007

Thank you for your interest in the Eastern Plains Transmission Project. Western hosted a series of open house meetings about the EPTP during August and September 2006 to hear your comments, issues and concerns about the proposed project. Your comments are helping Western further define the scope of the environmental impact statement.



analyze and address the comments we received during the scoping meetings.

To make our next round of meetings as productive as possible, we will not hold the December meetings as planned. The meetings will be rescheduled for early 2007. You will be notified of the dates, times and locations as soon as the new schedule is finalized.

We anticipated a second round of open house meetings in December 2006 to present refined route alternatives for your review and comment. However, we need more time to adequately

Visit the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm> for more information. You can contact us by e-mail at [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov) or call toll-free, 1-888-826-4710.

Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, CO 80539



accepting Initial Tariff, Waiving Regulations and Granting Blanket Approvals.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0252.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-413-000.

*Applicants:* Tampa Electric Company.

*Description:* Tampa Electric Co submits Second Revised Sheet No. 6 to FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 6, to be effective 1/2/07.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0253.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-414-000.

*Applicants:* Caledonia Power I, L.L.C.

*Description:* Caledonia Power I, LLC submits notice of cancellation of its market-based rate tariff, FERC Electric Tariff, First Revised Volume No. 1.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0258.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-415-000.

*Applicants:* DTE Pontiac North, LLC.

*Description:* DTE Pontiac North, LLC submits an application for order authorizing Market-Based Rates, Certain Waivers and Blanket Authorizations.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0254.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-416-000.

*Applicants:* Geneva Roth Holding, LLC.

*Description:* Geneva Roth Holding, LLC submits its FERC Electric Tariff, Original Volume No. 1.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0376.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-417-000.

*Applicants:* Wabash Valley Power Association, Inc.

*Description:* Wabash Valley Power Association, Inc submits supplements to FERC Rate Schedule filing of Jurisdictional Agreements Part 1 of 4.

*Filed Date:* 01/08/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070109-0135.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, January 29, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-418-000.

*Applicants:* Western Systems Power Pool, Inc.

*Description:* Western Systems Power Pool, Inc submits its request to amend the WSPP Agreement to include Alcoa Power Marketing, LLC et al as members.

*Filed Date:* 01/08/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070109-0098.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, January 29, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-419-000.

*Applicants:* PPL Electric Utilities Corporation.

*Description:* Metropolitan Edison Co submits a revised Interconnection Agreement with PPL Electric Utilities Corp.

*Filed Date:* 01/08/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070109-0099.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, January 29, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-420-000.

*Applicants:* American Electric Power Service Corporation.

*Description:* American Electric Power Service Corporation as agent for Kentucky Power Co submits an interconnection agreement with East Kentucky Power Cooperative.

*Filed Date:* 01/09/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070110-0143.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, January 30, 2007.

*Docket Numbers:* ER07-421-000.

*Applicants:* Wisconsin Power and Light Company.

*Description:* Wisconsin Power and Light Co submits the First Revised Power Supply Agreement with Wisconsin Public Power Inc.

*Filed Date:* 01/05/2007.

*Accession Number:* 20070108-0256.

*Comment Date:* 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, January 26, 2007.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5 p.m. Eastern Time on the specified comment date. It is not necessary to separately intervene again in a subdocket related to a compliance filing if you have previously intervened in the same docket. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant. In reference to filings initiating a new proceeding, interventions or protests submitted on or before the comment deadline need not be served on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an

eRegistration account using the eRegistration link. Select the eFiling link to log on and submit the intervention or protests.

Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the intervention or protest to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

The filings in the above proceedings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system by clicking on the appropriate link in the above list. They are also available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an eSubscription link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E7-667 Filed 1-18-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Western Area Power Administration

#### Eastern Plains Transmission Project, Colorado and Kansas

**AGENCY:** Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings and additional opportunity for public review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Western Area Power Administration (Western) issued a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on August 2, 2006, for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project (EPTP or Transmission Project). This notice announces additional public meetings to provide the public opportunity to review and comment on additional transmission line routes and revised routes; the scope of the EIS; and review comments previously received during the scoping meetings held in August and September 2006.

Western is proposing to participate with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Incorporated (Tri-State) in the construction of the EPTP. Western's participation would be in exchange for 275 megawatts (MW) of capacity rights on the proposed transmission lines. The EIS will address

the construction, operation, and maintenance of approximately 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and ancillary facilities, which include substations, fiber optic installation, access roads, and construction staging areas. The EIS will discuss alternatives such as Western's system alternatives and the no action alternative (no Federal action). The EIS will analyze and present environmental impacts compared to the existing baseline condition in which no Transmission Project facilities exist. The EIS also will include analyses of the environmental impacts of Tri-State's proposed generation projects, and other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the EPTP area. The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting dates and locations. The comment period will close March 9, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments, questions, and information on the scope of the EIS may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Mr. Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax (970) 461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov). For persons wishing to leave voice messages, the toll-free number is (888) 826-4710.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to request copies of the EIS, contact Mr. Hartman at the addresses provided or telephone the Transmission Project hotline toll-free at (888) 826-4710. For general information on DOE's NEPA review procedures or the status of a NEPA review, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC-20), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0119; telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756; or fax (202) 586-7031.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background and Need for Agency Action**

Western, a power marketing administration within DOE, markets Federal hydroelectric power to preference customers, as specified by law. They include municipalities, cooperatives, public utility and irrigation districts, Federal and State agencies, and Native American Tribes in 15 western States, including Colorado and Kansas. Western's proposal is to participate with Tri-State in the

construction of the Transmission Project in exchange for approximately 275 MW of capacity rights on the proposed transmission lines. Tri-State is a wholesale electric power supplier, owned by the 44 electric cooperatives it serves. Tri-State and the member utilities serve customers throughout Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Wyoming. Tri-State's Board of Directors approved a Resource Development Plan that includes the Transmission Project.

Western needs to provide more economical, reliable, diverse, and flexible power delivery to its customers by expanding the capability and geographic reach of Western's existing transmission system. The Transmission Project would provide Western's customers with more economical service by allowing customers to purchase transmission service directly from Western rather than through other companies' transmission lines. Also, during low water times, the Transmission Project would provide Western increased access to other options for satisfying Western's Federal hydropower contractual allocations. In addition, the Transmission Project would provide a direct interconnection at the Midway Substation which would facilitate power transfer between two of Western's Federal projects, the Colorado River Storage Project and the Loveland Area Projects. Enhancing and expanding transmission pathways also would contribute to ensuring reliability of the Federal transmission system.

##### **Proposed Action and Alternatives**

Western is preparing the EIS on its proposal to participate with Tri-State in the construction of the Transmission Project. Western's proposed activities include construction planning and management for approximately 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines, and acquiring rights-of-way for transmission lines, access roads, and communication facilities. In addition to the transmission lines, access roads, and construction staging areas, the EIS will address environmental effects of four new substations; expansions of approximately eight existing substations; and installing a fiber optic communications system for control of the transmission lines.

Western issued a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS for the Transmission Project, on August 2, 2006, (71 FR 43733) which included dates, times, and locations of public scoping meetings, and opportunities available for the public to comment. Since the NOI was published, 10 public scoping meetings were conducted between August 28 and September 14,

2006, throughout eastern Colorado and western Kansas. This notice announces additional public meetings in February 2007 to provide the public opportunity to review and comment on additional transmission line routes and revised routes; the scope of the EIS; and review comments previously received during the scoping meetings held in August and September 2006.

##### **Alternative Transmission Line Routes**

During the August and September 2006 scoping meetings, Western presented preliminary locations of transmission line corridors and new substations. As a result of comments received, Western gathered additional data, made several route refinements, added additional routes, and considered alternatives, all of which will be made available to the public at the February 2007, meetings. At the February meetings, Western seeks comments on the alternative routes. In the draft EIS, Western will consider those additional comments in its analysis of the alternative routes.

Western will address other alternatives in the EIS, including the no action alternative. Under the no action alternative, Western would not participate with Tri-State in the construction of the Transmission Project. The EIS will also evaluate the environmental effects of all the alternatives and compare them to the existing baseline condition, in which no Transmission Project facilities are present. Alternative transmission line routes and substation locations will be refined as part of the EIS public process and addressed in the EIS. Western will consider additional reasonable alternatives that are technically and economically viable and that would meet Western's purpose and need.

##### **Impacts Associated With Tri-State's Generation Projects**

Tri-State, in its Resource Development Plan, proposes to develop a two-unit expansion of a coal-based power plant in Holcomb, Kansas, and is planning an additional generation project in southeastern Colorado (referred to as Tri-State's Colorado Power Project). Western is not a participant in, is not involved in, and does not have control over Tri-State's generation projects. The EIS will evaluate the environmental impacts of Tri-State's generation projects as well as other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects.

### Summary of Comments Received During First Round Scoping

Western prepared a summary of the comments received during the first round of scoping meetings and will make the summary available at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm> prior to the public meetings in February 2007. Copies also are available upon request.

### Meetings

The dates and meeting locations are:

1. February 12, 2007, Carroll Building, 418 Edison Street, Brush, CO 80723.
2. February 13, 2007, Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Avenue, Limon, CO 80828.
3. February 14, 2007, Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 S. 14th Street, Old Town, Burlington, CO 80807.
4. February 15, 2007, City Hall, Community Room, 245 W. 4th Street, Wray, CO 80758.
5. February 16, 2007, Byers High School, Meeting Rooms 537/538, 444 E. Front Street, Byers, CO 80103.
6. February 19, 2007, Veteran's Memorial Building, 207 North Main Street, Lakin, KS 67860.
7. February 20, 2007, Community Activity Building (CAB Building), Wallace County Fairgrounds, Sharon Springs, KS 67758.
8. February 21, 2007, Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Room, 610 South 6th Street, Lamar, CO 81052.
9. February 22, 2007, Hanover Junior/Senior High School, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover), CO 80928.
10. February 23, 2007, McHarg Park Community Center, 405 Second Street, Avondale, CO 81022.

Each meeting will be held between 3 and 7 p.m., except for the meeting on February 22 at the Hanover School, which will be held between 4 and 8 p.m.

### Participation in the NEPA Process

Persons interested in receiving future notices, Transmission Project information, copies of the EIS, and other information on the NEPA review process should contact Mr. Hartman as described under **ADDRESSES**. The EIS (choice of summary or full document) will be available in printed and electronic (compact disc) formats.

Western anticipates the draft EIS will be available summer 2007, with a final EIS available spring 2008. A Record of Decision is expected to be issued spring 2008. The public will be provided an opportunity to comment on the draft

EIS. The location of public hearings on the draft EIS will be provided in the **Federal Register** and to local media at a later date.

Dated: January 11, 2007.

**Timothy J. Meeks,**  
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E7-703 Filed 1-18-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OECA-2006-0430; FRL-8270-9]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NESHAP for Taconite Iron Ore Processing (Renewal) EPA ICR Number 2050.03, OMB Control Number 2060-0538

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this document announces that an Information Collection Request (ICR) has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This is a request to renew an existing approved collection. This ICR is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2007. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. This ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its estimated burden and cost.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before February 20, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing docket ID number EPA-HQ-OECA-2006-0430, to (1) EPA online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method), by e-mail to [docket.oeca@epa.gov](mailto:docket.oeca@epa.gov), or by mail to: EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Environmental Protection Agency, Enforcement and Compliance Docket and Information Center, Mail Code 2201T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460, and (2) OMB at: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Attention: Desk Officer for EPA, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Learia Williams, Compliance Assessment and Media Programs Division, Office of Compliance, Mail

Code 2223A, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564-4113; fax number: (202) 564-0050; e-mail address: [williams.learia@epa.gov](mailto:williams.learia@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EPA has submitted the following ICR to OMB for review and approval according to the procedures prescribed in 5 CFR 1320.12. On June 21, 2006 (71 FR 35652), EPA sought comments on this ICR pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.8(d). EPA received no comments.

EPA has established a public docket for this ICR under Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OECA-2006-0430, which is available for online viewing at <http://www.regulations.gov>, or in person viewing at the Enforcement and Compliance Docket and Information Center in the EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), EPA West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Enforcement and Compliance Docket Center is (202) 566-1927.

Use EPA's electronic docket and comment system at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov), to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the docket, and to access those documents in the docket that are available electronically. Once in the system, select docket search, then key in the docket ID number identified above. Please note that EPA's policy is that public comments, whether submitted electronically or in paper, will be made available for public viewing at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as EPA receives them and without change, unless the comment contains copyrighted material, CBI, or other information whose public disclosure is restricted by statute. For further information about the electronic docket, go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

**Title:** NESHAP for Taconite Iron Ore Processing (Renewal).

**ICR Numbers:** EPA ICR Number 2050.03; OMB Control Number 2060-0538.

**ICR Status:** This ICR is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2007. Under OMB regulations, the Agency may continue to conduct or sponsor the collection of information while this submission is pending at OMB. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control numbers for EPA's





## **EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION PROJECT OPEN HOUSE 2-2-2**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** January 30, 2007

**CONTACT:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)

### **PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

LAKEWOOD, Colo.—A second series of public meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas is set for 10 communities between Feb. 12 and Feb. 23.

Western Area Power Administration seeks your comments on proposed and alternative routes for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project. The proposed project would construct about 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.

Based on comments received at the public scoping meetings in August and September 2006, and during the public comment period, Western identified proposed transmission line routes and alternative routes to evaluate in the Environmental Impact Statement. **Western has modified some of the alternative routes presented at the meetings in August and September in response to comments.** We encourage you to attend one of the upcoming meetings to review the revised proposals and provide your comments.

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations except as otherwise noted.

- **Feb. 12, Brush, Colo.**-Carroll Building, 418 Edison St.
- **Feb. 13, Limon, Colo.**-Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Ave.
- **Feb. 14, Burlington, Colo.**-Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 South 14<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Feb. 15, Wray, Colo.**-City Hall, Community Room, 245 West 4<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Feb. 16, Byers, Colo.**-Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St.
- **Feb. 19, Lakin, Kan.**-Veterans Memorial Building, 207 North Main St.
- **Feb. 20, Sharon Springs, Kan.**-Community Activity Building (CAB), Wallace County Fairgrounds
- **Feb. 21, Lamar, Colo.**-Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 South 6<sup>th</sup> St.
- **Feb. 22, Hanover, Colo.**-Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover). **NOTE: This meeting begins at 4 and ends at 8 pm.**

## **EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION PROJECT OPEN HOUSE 2-2-2**

- **Feb. 23, Avondale, Colo.-**McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second Street

All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible. Please contact Western by phone at 888-826-4710 or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov) if you need other accommodations to attend the meetings.

The open-house meetings will provide you an opportunity to see how previously received comments have been incorporated into the proposed alternative routes to be evaluated in the EIS, to review the proposed routes and alternative routes and comment on the alternative routes. In addition, the public can continue to provide comments on other issues and concerns related to the preparation of the EIS.

Your comments will help us ensure that we are using appropriate criteria to select proposed routes for the transmission lines, that we have accurate and up-to-date information about resources in the project area and that we are analyzing the appropriate issues in the EIS. You can provide your comments at the public meetings from Feb. 12 to 23 by filling out a comment sheet, by visiting with project staff or by marking your comments on detailed sheet maps of the proposed and alternative routes. You can also submit comments on the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp/commentform2.htm>

Written comments, questions, and information on the scope of the EIS may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Mr. Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax (970) 461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov). Comments received by March 9, 2007 will be considered in developing the proposed routes that will be presented in the Draft EIS.

For more information about the project, including background material and maps, visit the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>

**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 12 – February 23  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23,  
IN AVONDALE FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE MCHARG PARK COMMUNITY  
CENTER GYM, AT 405 SECOND STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER  
ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS  
ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES  
OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN  
KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

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**Emitido por:** Administración de Energía del Oeste (*Western Area Power Administration*)

**Contacto:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)

**Para usar:** Del 5 – 12 de febrero

**Duración:** 0:45

## **REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO PROGRAMADA PARA EL PROYECTO DE TRANSMISIÓN DE EASTERN PLAINS**

EL VIERNES 23 DE FEBRERO, DE 3 A 7 P.M., TENDRÁ LUGAR UNA REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO EN AVONDALE. LA SEDE DE LA REUNIÓN SERÁ EL GIMNASIO DEL MCHARG PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, UBICADO EN EL 405 SECOND STREET. LA ADMINISTRACIÓN DE ENERGÍA DEL OESTE (*WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION*) LE OFRECERÁ INFORMACIÓN AL PÚBLICO Y RESPONDERÁ PREGUNTAS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS PROPUESTAS Y ALTERNATIVAS PARA CONSTRUIR UNAS 1,000 MILLAS DE TENDIDO ELÉCTRICO DE ALTO VOLTAJE EN LA ZONA ESTE DE COLORADO Y EN LA ZONA OESTE DE KANSAS.

WESTERN ESPERA ESCUCHAR SUS COMENTARIOS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS Y TAMBIÉN LO EXHORTA A PROPONER TEMAS Y PREOCUPACIONES ESPECÍFICOS PARA EVALUAR LA DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL RELACIONADA CON EL PROYECTO PROPUESTO. LA FECHA LÍMITE PARA ENTREGAR LOS COMENTARIOS ES EL 9 DE MARZO.

SI DESEA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN, VISITE EL SITIO DE INTERNET DEL  
PROYECTO EN LA SIGUIENTE PÁGINA:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-

**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 5 – February 12  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12,  
IN BRUSH FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE CARROLL BUILDING, AT 418 EDISON  
STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE  
INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE  
POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

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**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 5 – February 14  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 14, IN BURLINGTON FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE BURLINGTON  
EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CENTER, AT 420 SOUTH 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET.  
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION  
AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO  
BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN  
COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

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**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 5 – February 16  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16,  
IN BYERS FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE BYERS HIGH SCHOOL MEETING ROOM  
#537/#528, AT 444 EAST FRONT STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER  
ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS  
ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES  
OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN  
KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-



**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 12 – February 22  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 22, IN HANOVER FROM 4 TO 8 P.M. IN THE HANOVER  
JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA/AUDITORIUM, AT 17050 SOUTH  
PEYTON HIGHWAY. WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL  
SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE  
POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-

**Emitido por:** Administración de Energía del Oeste (*Western Area Power Administration*)

**Contacto:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)

**Para usar:** Del 5 – 12 de febrero

**Duración:** 0:45

## **REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO PROGRAMADA PARA EL PROYECTO DE TRANSMISIÓN DE EASTERN PLAINS**

EL JUEVES 22 DE FEBRERO, DE 4 A 8 P.M., TENDRÁ LUGAR UNA REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO EN HANOVER. LA SEDE DE LA REUNIÓN SERÁ LA CAFETERÍA/AUDITORIO JUNIOR/SENIOR DE LA ESCUELA SECUNDARIA HANOVER, UBICADA EN EL 17050 SOUTH PEYTON HIGHWAY. LA ADMINISTRACIÓN DE ENERGÍA DEL OESTE (*WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION*) PONDRÁ INFORMACIÓN AL ALCANCE DEL PÚBLICO Y RESPONDERÁ PREGUNTAS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS PROPUESTAS Y ALTERNATIVAS PARA CONSTRUIR UNAS 1,000 MILLAS DE TENDIDO ELÉCTRICO DE ALTO VOLTAJE EN LA REGIÓN ESTE DE COLORADO Y EN LA REGIÓN OESTE DE KANSAS.

WESTERN ESPERA ESCUCHAR SUS COMENTARIOS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS, Y TAMBIÉN LO EXHORTA A PROPONER TEMAS Y PREOCUPACIONES ESPECÍFICOS PARA EVALUAR LA DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL RELACIONADA CON EL PROYECTO PROPUESTO. LA FECHA LÍMITE PARA ENTREGAR LOS COMENTARIOS ES EL 9 DE MARZO.

SI DESEA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN, PUEDE VISITAR EL SITIO DE  
INTERNET DEL PROYECTO EN LA PÁGINA:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-

**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 12 – February 19  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, IN LAKIN FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING, AT 207 NORTH MAIN STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT. COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-

**Emitido por:** Administración de Energía del Oeste (*Western Area Power Administration*)

**Contacto:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)

**Para usar:** Del 5 – 12 de febrero

**Duración:** 0:45

## **REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO PROGRAMADA PARA EL PROYECTO DE TRANSMISIÓN DE EASTERN PLAINS**

EL LUNES 19 DE FEBRERO, DE 3 A 7 P.M., TENDRÁ LUGAR UNA REUNIÓN ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO EN LAKIN. LA SEDE DE LA REUNIÓN SERÁ EL VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING, UBICADO EN EL 207 NORTH MAIN STREET. LA ADMINISTRACIÓN DE ENERGÍA DEL OESTE (*WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION*) PONDRÁ INFORMACIÓN AL ALCANCE DEL PÚBLICO Y RESPONDERÁ PREGUNTAS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS PROPUESTAS Y ALTERNATIVAS PARA CONSTRUIR UNAS 1,000 MILLAS DE TENDIDO ELÉCTRICO DE ALTO VOLTAJE EN LA REGIÓN ESTE DE COLORADO Y EN LA REGIÓN OESTE DE KANSAS.

WESTERN ESPERA ESCUCHAR SUS COMENTARIOS ACERCA DE LAS RUTAS Y TAMBIÉN LO EXHORTA A PROPONER TEMAS Y PREOCUPACIONES ESPECÍFICOS PARA EVALUAR LA DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL DEL PROYECTO PROPUESTO. LA FECHA LÍMITE PARA ENTREGAR LOS COMENTARIOS ES EL 9 DE MARZO.

SI DESEA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN, SÍRVASE VISITAR EL SITIO DE INTERNET DEL PROYECTO EN LA PÁGINA:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 12 – February 21  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 21, IN LAMAR FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE LAMAR COMMUNITY  
BUILDING, AT 610 SOUTH 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER  
ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS  
ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES  
OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN  
KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

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**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 5 – February 13  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, IN LIMON FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE LIMON COMMUNITY BUILDING, SOUTH ROOM, AT 477 D AVENUE. WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT. COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-

**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 12 – February 20  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, IN SHARON SPRINGS FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY BUILDING AT THE WALLACE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS. WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT. COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

-XXX-



**From:** Western Area Power Administration  
**Contact:** Randy Wilkerson, 720-962-7056, [wilkerson@wapa.gov](mailto:wilkerson@wapa.gov)  
**For use:** February 5 – February 15  
**Length:** 0:45

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING SET FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION  
PROJECT**

AN OPEN-HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY,  
FEBRUARY 15, IN WRAY FROM 3 TO 7 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COMMUNITY  
ROOM, AT 245 WEST 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET. WESTERN AREA POWER  
ADMINISTRATION WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS  
ON PROPOSED AND ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BUILD ABOUT 1,000 MILES  
OF HIGH-VOLTAGE POWERLINES IN EASTERN COLORADO AND WESTERN  
KANSAS.

WESTERN SEEKS YOUR COMMENTS ON THE ROUTES AND ALSO INVITES  
YOU TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC ISSUES AND CONCERNS TO EVALUATE IN THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.  
COMMENTS ARE DUE BY MARCH 9.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE PROJECT WEB SITE AT:

[HTTP://WWW.WAPA.GOV/TRANSMISSION/EPTP.HTM](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).

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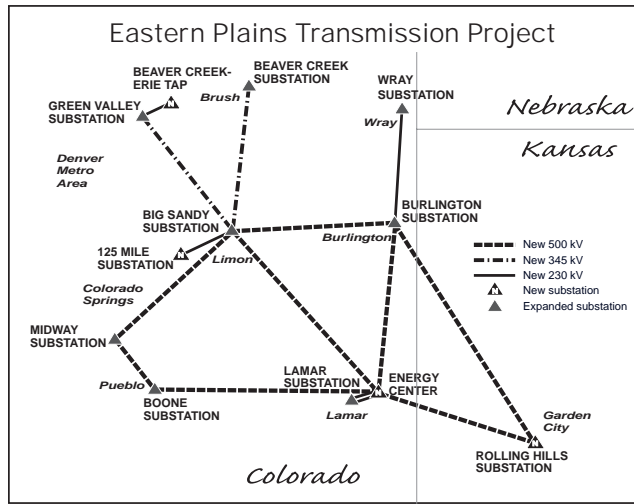
# We need your ideas!

**A** second series of public meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas is set for 10 communities between Feb. 12 and Feb. 23.

Western Area Power Administration seeks your comments on proposed and alternative routes for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project.

Informal open-house meetings will provide you the opportunity to review the proposed and alternative routes, and see how Western, in response to previous comments, has modified the routes that will be evaluated in the EPTP Environmental Impact Statement. These meetings are also an opportunity to learn more about the project and the EIS process, ask questions and submit comments. We encourage you to attend.

The proposed project would construct about 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.



Visit the project Web site online at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>

## We want your comments

Use the comment form on the EPTP Web site; submit them at one of the meetings or send them to:

Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager  
Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539;  
Fax 970-461-7213; or  
e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov)

Comments received by March 9, 2007, will be considered in developing the proposed routes that will be presented in the Draft EIS.

## Meeting dates and locations

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations except as otherwise noted.

- **Feb. 12, Brush, Colo.**-Carroll Building, 418 Edison St.
- **Feb. 13, Limon, Colo.**-Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Ave.
- **Feb. 14, Burlington, Colo.**-Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 South 14th St.
- **Feb. 15, Wray, Colo.**-City Hall, Community Room, 245 West 4th St.
- **Feb. 16, Byers, Colo.**-Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St.
- **Feb. 19, Lakin, Kan.**-Veterans Memorial Building, 207 North Main St.
- **Feb. 20, Sharon Springs, Kan.**-Community Activity Bldg. (CAB), Wallace County Fairgrounds
- **Feb. 21, Lamar, Colo.**-Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 South 6th St.
- **Feb. 22, Hanover, Colo.**-Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover).

**NOTE: This meeting begins at 4 and ends at 8 p.m.**

- **Feb. 23, Avondale, Colo.**-McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second Street

All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible. Please contact Western by phone at 888-826-4710 or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov) if you need other accommodations to attend the meetings.



## OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR EASTERN PLAINS TRANSMISSION PROJECT

**T**he second round of open house meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas are set for 10 communities between February 12 and 23. Meeting dates and locations are:

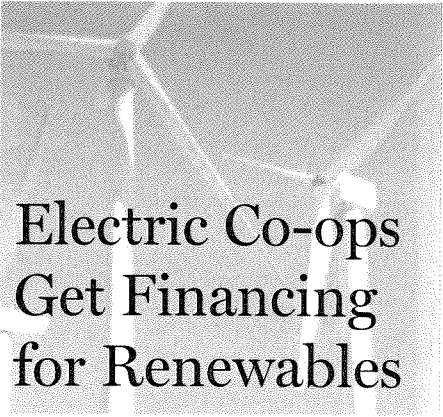
- February 12 - Brush, Carroll Building, 3-7 p.m.
- February 13 - Limon, Limon Community Building, 3-7 p.m.
- February 14 - Burlington, Burlington Education and Community Center, 3-7 p.m.
- February 15 - Wray, City Hall Community Room, 3-7 p.m.
- February 16 - Byers, Byers High School, 3-7 p.m.
- February 19 - Lakin, Kansas, Veteran's Memorial Building, 3-7 p.m.
- February 20 - Sharon Springs, Kansas, Community Activity Building, 3-7 p.m.
- February 21 - Lamar, Lamar Community Building, 3-7 p.m.
- February 22 - Hanover, Hanover Junior-Senior High School, 4-8 p.m. (tentative)
- February 23 - Avondale, McHarg Park Community Center, 3-7 p.m.

The open house meetings are part of Western Area Power Administration's efforts to share project information and transmission line route alternatives, as well as solicit public comments as it prepares an environmental impact statement for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project.

Western proposes to participate with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., in the construction of about 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities. These will include expansions at existing substations and construction of new substations, access roads and fiber optic communication facilities in exchange for capacity rights on the transmission lines. Western needs this additional transmission system capacity to provide more economical, reliable, diverse and flexible delivery of electricity to customers.

The analysis area includes part or all of the following counties in Colorado: Adams, Arapahoe, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, Elbert, El Paso, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Lincoln, Morgan, Otero, Prowers, Pueblo, Washington, Weld and Yuma; and in Kansas: Finney, Greeley, Hamilton, Kearny, Logan, Scott, Sherman, Thomas, Wallace and Wichita.

For more information, contact Western Area Power Administration toll-free at 1-888-826-4710, by email at [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov), or visit [www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm).



## Electric Co-ops Get Financing for Renewables

**A** total of 78 renewable energy projects proposed by electric co-ops in 22 states have been approved for financing through the issuance of Clean Renewable Energy Bonds.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, the co-ops' allocation of not less than \$300 million in tax credit bond authority will support 33 solar facilities, 13 wind projects, 13 landfill gas facilities, 12 open-loop biomass facilities, six hydropower projects and one refined coal production facility. Individual allocations range from \$120,548 to \$31 million.

The bonds, provided for by the Energy Tax Incentives Act of 2005, offer co-ops and other not-for-profit utilities tax incentives for renewable generation projects that otherwise would be unaffordable. These incentives are comparable to those provided to investor-owned utilities through the production tax credit.

The law created a two-year window, through January 1, 2008, for the program. It also capped bond authority at \$800 million with \$300 million allocated to the nonprofit utilities. This has proven to be insufficient as co-ops have sought \$554 million in bond authority. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association is urging Congress to extend the program through January 1, 2011, with increases in the annual authorization.

— *Electric Co-op Today*

## Power Supplier Supports Energy Efficiency

**U**pholding a long-standing commitment to energy efficiency, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association's board of directors has renewed its membership in the Electric Power Research Institute and the Cooperative Research Network.

Tri-State's \$1.5 million investment in these organizations is added to that of approximately 1,000 other utilities across the country to fund research into technologies and science that will improve the reliability and efficiency of electrical systems for utilities, as well as for homes and businesses.

EPRI, founded in 1973 in California, is recognized as the

world's foremost utility research and development consortium. CRN, headquartered in Virginia, focuses on the needs of electric co-op systems, such as Tri-State.

In addition to supporting these research institutes, Tri-State will continue to reward co-op members for their energy-efficient purchases and practices. The \$2 million program provides consumers with cash back when they purchase more efficient appliances, motors and heating/cooling systems.

Tri-State, headquartered in Westminster, is the wholesale power supplier to 18 of Colorado's 22 electric cooperatives.





# Eastern Plains Transmission Project

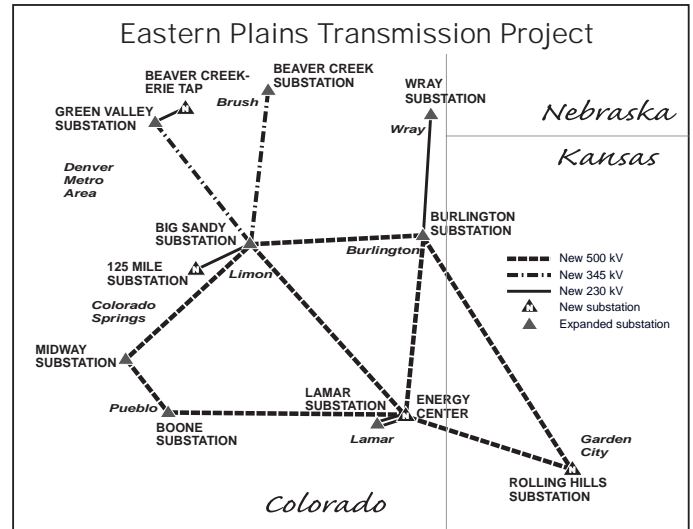
## We need your ideas!

A second series of public meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas is set for 10 communities between Feb. 12 and Feb. 23.

Western Area Power Administration seeks your comments on proposed and alternative routes for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project.

Informal open-house meetings will provide you the opportunity to review the proposed and alternative routes, and see how Western, in response to previous comments, has modified the routes that will be evaluated in the EPTP Environmental Impact Statement. These meetings are also an opportunity to learn more about the project and the EIS process, ask questions and submit comments. We encourage you to attend.

The proposed project would construct about 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.



Visit the project Web site online at  
<http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>

### We want your comments

Use the comment form on the EPTP Web site; submit them at one of the meetings or send them to:

Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager  
Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539;  
Fax 970-461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov)

Comments received by March 9, 2007, will be considered in developing the proposed routes that will be presented in the Draft EIS.

### Meeting dates and locations

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations except as otherwise noted.

- **Feb. 12, Brush, Colo.**-Carroll Building, 418 Edison St.
- **Feb. 13, Limon, Colo.**-Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Ave.
- **Feb. 14, Burlington, Colo.**-Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 South 14th St.
- **Feb. 15, Wray, Colo.**-City Hall, Community Room, 245 West 4th St.
- **Feb. 16, Byers, Colo.**-Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St.
- **Feb. 19, Lakin, Kan.**-Veterans Memorial Building, 207 North Main St.
- **Feb. 20, Sharon Springs, Kan.**-Community Activity Bldg. (CAB), Wallace County Fairgrounds
- **Feb. 21, Lamar, Colo.**-Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 South 6th St.
- **Feb. 22, Hanover, Colo.**-Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover). **NOTE: This meeting begins at 4 and ends at 8 p.m.**
- **Feb. 23, Avondale, Colo.**-McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second Street

**All meeting locations are wheelchair accessible. Please contact Western by phone at 888-826-4710 or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov) if you need other accommodations to attend the meetings.**







**Department of Energy**  
Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, CO 80539-3003

Dear Landowner:

Western Area Power Administration (Western) is proposing to participate with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) in the Eastern Plains Transmission Project (EPTP). The EPTP would consist of approximately 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities. Western has identified a number of alternative transmission line routes to evaluate in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) based on comments received during the public scoping period in August and September 2006. **You are receiving this letter because one of the newly developed alternative routes may affect your property.**

We would like you to review the enclosed information and provide comments to us. You may provide comments in writing, by phone, e-mail or fax at any time before the comment period ends on March 9, 2007. Along with this letter, we have included the following items:

- A map of all of the alternative routes that are part of the EPTP
- A detailed map that shows alternative routes that may be near your property
- A brochure that describes Western's process for acquiring rights-of-way from landowners
- A postage-paid comment form that you may use to provide comments to Western

Western will conduct 10 public meetings in February 2007. The dates and locations are provided below. We encourage you to attend one of these meetings to see how these new routes might affect your property. The objectives of the public meetings are:

- To demonstrate how comments made during scoping have been incorporated into the alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS
- To provide an opportunity to review the alternatives.
- To provide information on the criteria and methods used for screening potential alternatives
- To receive comments on the alternatives selected for evaluation in the EIS
- To provide information on other alternatives suggested during scoping
- To provide updated information on any developments in project design, land acquisition, purpose and need, and other issues
- To provide project updates, such as the status of the EIS and the EIS schedule

The meetings will also provide an additional opportunity for the public to comment on the scope of the EIS. You may wish to attend one of these meetings to learn more about the project and provide additional input for the scope of the EIS. We are extending the scoping period for the EIS and, at the February public meetings, we will accept additional input for defining the scope of the EIS

Western will conduct these meetings as “open houses,” which means you may come at any time. There will be no formal presentation, but Western will have additional information available, and representatives will be available to discuss the project with you. Project representatives at the meetings will record verbal comments on maps, comment forms or flip charts. You may submit written comments at the meetings or by mail during the comment period. Additional opportunities to comment include e-mailing or phoning comments to Western.

Written comments, questions and information on the project may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Mr. Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax (970) 461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov). For persons wishing to leave voice messages, the toll-free number is: (888) 826-4710. A Web site with additional information is located at: <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>. You may provide your comments at the meetings or at any time before the end of the comment period, March 9, 2007.

**Meeting dates and locations.** All meetings, except the meeting of February 22 at the Hanover School, will begin at 3:00 pm and end at 7:00 pm. The Hanover School meeting begins at 4:00 pm and ends at 8:00 pm.

1. February 12, 2007, the Carroll Building, 418 Edison St., Brush, CO 80723
2. February 13, 2007, Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Avenue, Limon, CO 80828
3. February 14, 2007, Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St., Burlington, CO 80807
4. February 15, 2007, the Community Room at City Hall, 245 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Wray, CO 80758
5. February 16, 2007, Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St., Byers, CO 80103
6. February 19, 2007, Veterans Memorial Building, 207 North Main St., Lakin, KS 67860
7. February 20, 2007, Community Activity Building (CAB) @ the Wallace County Fairgrounds, Sharon Springs, KS 67758
8. February 21, 2007, Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Lamar, CO 81052

9. February 22, 2007, Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover), CO 80928. NOTE: This meeting will begin at 4:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm.
10. February 23, 2007, McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second Street, Avondale, CO 81022

Sincerely,



T. Craig Knoell  
EPTP Project Manager





**If you made written comments on one of the large laminated sheet maps at the meeting, please fill out this section:**

Meeting location and date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Staff member who assisted you: \_\_\_\_\_

Map reference number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Marker color: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel location and/or land ownership/ township/ range/ section: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Are there any special uses, circumstances, or factors on your land that you would like the Eastern Plains Transmission Project to be aware of? If so, please list.**

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Please provide any other comments on the proposed scope of the EPTP EIS and identify any additional issues that need to be addressed.

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**Sign up to receive the Eastern Plains Transmission Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**

Let us know if you would like to receive a copy of the DEIS. Once the DEIS is completed, the document will be available at public libraries on CD. The Executive Summary will be posted on Western’s website at [www.wapa.gov](http://www.wapa.gov). **Please check the applicable box or boxes below:**

Notify me of publication of the DEIS

Send me an electronic copy of the DEIS on CD-rom

Send me a paper copy of the Executive Summary (30 pages)

***Tell us how to reach you***

Include your name, address, phone number, fax, and e-mail, so we may keep you up to date about this project.

CONTACT INFORMATION (optional)

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PARTICIPATE.**

**Please submit comments by the following means:**

- Leave this form at the meeting.
- Mail the form or a letter to the address below.
- Fax the form or a letter to 970-461-7213.
- E-mail comments to [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov).

Please submit comments by March 9, 2007

This comment form is also available on the following Web site:

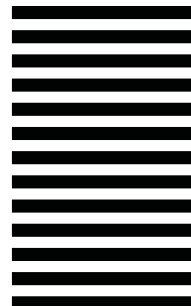
<http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>

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Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, CO 80539



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**JIM HARTMAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION  
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION  
PO BOX 3700  
LOVELAND CO 80539-9922**



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## We need your ideas

Your comments will help us ensure that we are using appropriate criteria to select proposed routes for the transmission lines, that we have accurate and up-to-date information about resources in the project area and that we are analyzing the appropriate issues in the EIS. You can provide your comments at the public meetings from Feb. 12 to 23 by filling out a comment sheet, by visiting with project staff or by marking your comments on detailed sheet maps of the proposed and alternative routes. You can also submit comments on the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp/commentform.htm>

Written comments, questions and information

on the scope of the EIS may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to Mr. Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax (970) 461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov). For persons wishing to leave voice messages, the toll-free number is (888) 826-4710. Comments need to be submitted by March 9 to be factored into route refinements that will be presented in the Draft EIS.

For more information about the project, including background material and maps, visit the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>



P.O. Box 281213  
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213



# Eastern Plains TRANSMISSION PROJECT

JANUARY 2007

## Public meetings set for Eastern Plains Transmission Project

A second series of public meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas is set for 10 communities between Feb. 12 and Feb. 23.

Western Area Power Administration seeks your comments on proposed and alternative routes for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project. Based on comments received at the public scoping meetings in August and September 2006, and during the public comment period, Western identified proposed transmission line routes and alternative routes to evaluate in the Environmental Impact Statement. **Western has modified some of the alternative routes presented at the meetings in August and September in response to comments.** We encourage you to attend one of the upcoming meetings to review the revised proposals and provide your comments.

The open-house meetings will provide you an opportunity to see how previously received comments have been incorporated into the alternative routes that will be evaluated in the EIS, to review the proposed routes and alternative routes and comment on the alternative routes. In addition, you can continue to provide comments on other issues and concerns related to the preparation of the EIS.

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations except as otherwise noted.

- **Feb. 12, Brush, Colo.**-Carroll Building, 418 Edison St.
- **Feb. 13, Limon, Colo.**-Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Ave.
- **Feb. 14, Burlington, Colo.**-Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 South 14th St.
- **Feb. 15, Wray, Colo.**-City Hall, Community Room, 245 West 4th St.
- **Feb. 16, Byers, Colo.**-Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St.
- **Feb. 19, Lakin, Kan.**-Veterans Memorial Building, 207 North Main St.
- **Feb. 20, Sharon Springs, Kan.**-Community Activity Building (CAB), Wallace County Fairgrounds
- **Feb. 21, Lamar, Colo.**-Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 South 6th St.
- **Feb. 22, Hanover, Colo.**-Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover).  
**NOTE:** This meeting begins at 4 and ends at 8 pm.
- **Feb. 23, Avondale, Colo.**-McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second Street

## Alternatives refined, proposed routes identified

Western received many site-specific comments about the preliminary alternative corridors presented at public scoping meetings during August and September. The alternative corridors were broken into segments which could be combined and adjusted to best respond to specific concerns on the ground. Segments of the preliminary corridors have been adjusted in response to comments received and additional ground and aerial surveillance. Most often, the adjustments involved moving a segment to avoid residential impacts. Some segments were modified based on comments providing new information about wildlife habitat or other resources.

We then compared the refined alternative routes with each other through a comparative analysis. The routes compared were the most accurate to date, reflecting continued reconnaissance and refinement following the public scoping meetings. The comparative analysis began with an evaluation of the effects and impacts for each route alternative. The effects for each route alternative were assessed using 47 criteria in seven categories: land use, geology and soils, water resources, vegetation, wildlife, cultural resources and engineering. Western continues to refine the routes and, as indicated above, seeks further comments on the routes.

### Land Use

The land use category considered a large number of factors. To minimize agricultural impacts, the best rank was given to the fewest linear miles of prime, dryland and irrigated farmland crossed, as well as to the fewest transmission structures in these fields. The best rank also was given to the greatest number of miles of rangeland crossed since these fields do not contain crops. The greatest number of miles following an existing linear feature, such as a road or pipeline, also was an advantage for minimizing new impacts and for sharing rights of way.

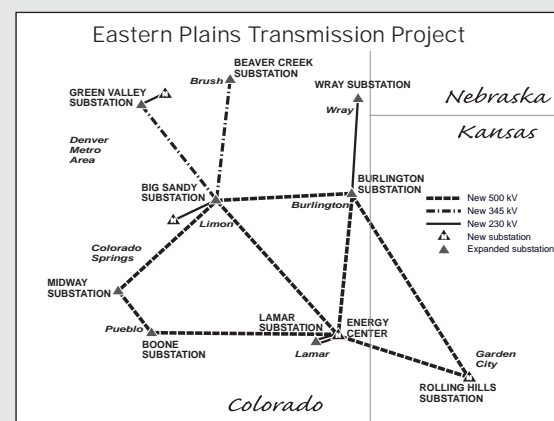
To avoid impacts to residential areas, the most favorable ranking was given to locations which contained the fewest residences within 500 feet of a proposed transmission line, the fewest residences within 0.5 miles of a line, the greatest distance to existing or planned subdivisions and the fewest number of structures which would need to be acquired or relocated. The most favorable ranking also was given to the fewest number of transmission-line miles within 0.5 miles of a town or municipal boundary.

It was an advantage to minimize the number of existing oil and gas wells and communication towers within 200 feet of a transmission line. It also was an advantage to minimize the length of

## About EPTP

Western Area Power Administration proposes to participate with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., in constructing approximately 1,000 miles of high-voltage transmission lines and related facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas, expanding existing substations and constructing new substations, constructing access roads and construction staging areas and installing fiber optic communication facilities.

Tri-State would own and operate the proposed transmission lines. In exchange for its participation in constructing the project, Western would receive 275 megawatts of capacity rights on the proposed transmission lines.



## We heard from you during scoping

Western is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project under the National Environmental Policy Act. NEPA defines the process of scoping as "an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action."

Western conducted 10 open-house public scoping meetings in August and September 2006. Scoping meetings were held from 3 to 8 p.m. to allow the public flexibility to attend at their convenience. Large-format informational displays and take-home fact sheets provided information about the project. Sheet maps based on aerial photography and parcel boundaries illustrated the reference centerlines and corridors. The sheet maps helped landowners and interested individuals identify property, issues and concerns within specific preliminary alternative corridors.

Three hundred and fifty-seven individuals attended the scoping meetings. Landowners with agricultural or residential land were the primary attendees. Additional attendees included representatives from the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, local government officials, local electrical utility representatives, media, envi-

ronmental groups, local financial institutions, local business owners, wind energy advocates and other interested parties.

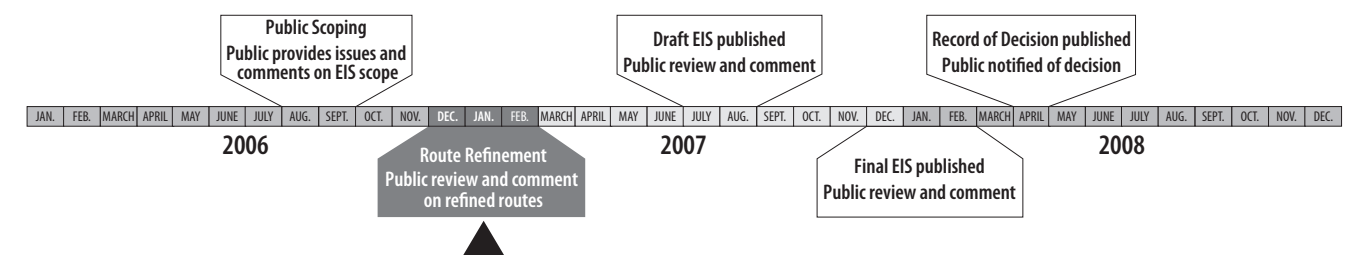
Western received comments at the public scoping meetings on comment forms and as written suggestions on sheet maps. Written comments on the sheet maps were primarily site-specific information or concerns regarding particular preliminary alternative corridors. Western representatives engaged many stakeholders at the public scoping meetings and recorded oral comments on comment sheets.

Comment forms, letters, e-mail, fax and phone correspondence were accepted after the public scoping meetings until Sept. 30, 2006. Western also considered all comments received between the end of the scoping period and Dec. 31, 2006, when the scoping summary report was finalized.

Western received a total of 1,348 substantive comments from 95 commenters. The preliminary alternative corridors and Tri-State's generation projects received the most comments. Other topics of high interest among the public who commented included agriculture, air quality, cumulative effects, health and safety, land use, mitigation, public participation and meeting process, social and economic values and water resources.



## EPTP Environmental Impact Study Timeline



## Continued from page 5

and alternatives and transportation to waste disposal sites

- **Health and safety** – health effects to workers and local residents, health issues related to emissions and discharge from coal-fired power plants; require detailed emergency management plans
- **Land use** – effects to lands caused by proposed coal-fired power plants
- **Mitigation** – proposed use of adaptive resource management
- **Noise** – conduct baseline noise monitoring; consider projected peak and 1-hour average and maximum noise levels and alternative noise reduction measures
- **Social and economic values** – assist local agencies with infrastructure upgrades related to generation project construction and operation, financial effects of proposed power plants on Tri-State’s members and financial liability to each consumer, liability if carbon emissions limitations are imposed
- **Special status species** – increased deposits of various pollutants on habitats of special status species, effects on special status species on and near the proposed plant site and related components
- **Vegetation** – metal uptake by plants from coal-fired power plant emissions
- **Visual resources** – effects to visibility caused by plant emissions
- **Water** – total water consumption of all generation units and effects to existing wells, springs, and wetlands; increased deposits of pollutants on waters; amount and characteristics of waste water discharge
- **Wildlife** – protect water at the source for use by wildlife, provide measures to keep wildlife away from waste ponds and disposal sites

## Energy alternatives

Several comments suggested Western consider and assess energy resource alternatives to coal-burning power plants, including conservation, renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind and

biomass and cleaner methods of fossil fuel generation.

## Process and public involvement

Some commenters suggested that all public meetings should be conducted in a question and answer format with all questions and answers recorded and transcribed. Others questioned the involvement of Tri-State employees in the public meetings. Additional comments suggested providing a staffed complaint hotline to address neighborhood problems, especially during construction; providing public training on permitting and NEPA to all communities designated as environmental justice communities and providing independent experts to communities and others to review permit applications and technical reports.

## Preliminary alternative corridors

Western received many comments related to the preliminary alternative corridors, often involving specific locations. Western is using these comments to refine the alternative routes and develop proposed routes. In addition to site-specific comments, Western received comments on general criteria to use in selecting routes, including:

- Route transmission lines to avoid homes, residential areas, farmsteads, developed and populated areas, center pivot irrigation systems, conservation easements and native prairies.
- Use existing linear features, such as utility rights of way, roads, section lines, edges of fields and pasture lines.
- Site transmission lines near wind farms.
- Avoid visual effects.
- Avoid properties that already have transmission lines and other infrastructure projects.
- Avoid “spider-webbing” out of substations.
- Give all feasible alternatives equal consideration and analysis.

transmission line in proximity to private and public airports, conservation easements, stewardship trust lands, recreation areas, wildlife areas, state parks and other non-wilderness areas, and designated scenic areas and routes. Transmission-line miles crossing state lands (which were not granted special conservation status) and Bureau of Land Management lands, however, were considered favorable to take advantage of public access.

## Geology and Soils

To minimize erosion and other environmental impacts, the best ranking was given to the fewest number of transmission-line miles crossing slopes greater than 15%, or the fewest lines built in highly erodible soil, sandy soil, or soil with a low potential for reclamation.

## Water Resources

To minimize water quality impacts, the best ranking was given to the fewest number of crossings of perennial streams, lakes, wetlands, seeps, riparian areas or springs greater than 800 feet. Likewise, the best ranking was given to the fewest transmission-line miles within a floodplain.

## Vegetation

The best ranking was given to the fewest miles of untilled landscapes impacted by transmission lines and to the fewest miles requiring removal of trees.

## Wildlife Habitat

To avoid impacts to wildlife, the best ranking was given to the fewest miles of transmission lines within wildlife habitats. The habitats included big game winter range or production areas, turkey production or roosting areas, great blue heron nesting or roosting areas, bald eagle habitats, greater and lesser prairie chicken range or production areas and raptor nest buffers.

## Cultural Resources

To avoid cultural resource impacts, it was considered most favorable to minimize the number of designated or eligible National Register of Historic Places sites, landmarks or monuments within a transmission line right of way.

## Engineering

In this category, a shorter transmission length

was considered an advantage to reduce the costs of construction. Likewise, fewer towers and fewer angle structures to complete a turn in direction represented lower construction costs. It also was considered favorable to minimize crossing existing transmission lines, highways and railroads. Use of existing access roads was an advantage for construction and for operation and maintenance. If new, necessary roads need to be constructed, however, the best rank was given to the lowest number of new road miles or overland access necessary. Routes within 0.25 miles of low-voltage lines were considered siting opportunities while those within one mile of high-voltage lines were considered constraints.

## Comparative matrix

A matrix allowed individual routes to be ranked against one another to weigh those representing the least impact to the human and natural environments in comparison to the other routes. In this method, lower rankings were considered most favorable, with a ranking of “1” signifying the best score. To determine a final score, each route was subtotaled and ranked in each category. The category ranks were totaled for an overall route ranking. In this way, a single category was less likely to bias the results.

Using the comparative matrix analysis, we selected proposed and alternative routes based on lowest level of effects considering all criteria. We then modified the proposed and alternative route selection based on overriding concerns, such as effects to residences.

Minimizing impacts to residences was a common consideration in breaking a tie between routes. It also was an overriding consideration in selecting the proposed and alternative routes, even where another alternative ranked more favorably. We sought opportunities to avoid the physical and aesthetic effects of locating transmission structures near residential properties while minimizing or mitigating other impacts.

The proposed routes represent the results of our analysis at this time. They are subject to change based on your comments and new information that is discovered as we conduct further analysis of the routes.

# What you told us during scoping

The examples that follow are not intended to represent a catalog of all comments received during scoping, but rather to provide a representation of the range of comments received. The complete scoping summary report is available on the EPTP Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>.

Many comments Western received suggested various resource topics to evaluate in the EIS. Western will consider the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the EPTP on the following:

- **Access and transportation** – especially the effect of construction activities and increased traffic
- **Agriculture** – including effects to irrigated cropland, irrigation systems, difficulty of farming around structures and safety of livestock
- **Air quality** – dust control and vehicle emissions during construction and roadway use
- **Aquatic species and habitats** – effects to aquatic habitats and systems from construction, maintenance and presence of transmission facilities
- **Cultural and historic resources, including Native American religious concerns** – effects to resources such as human remains, archaeological items, Native American graves and significant cultural and historic sites, including the Sand Creek Massacre site
- **Electrical characteristics and radio and television interference** – effects of transmission line operation on other electrical systems such as electric and metal fences, GPS-equipped farm equipment, radios and other transmission lines and the effects of electric and magnetic fields on human and animal health and safety
- **Environmental justice** – effects on rural, low-income communities, relative effects on rural and urban areas, the distribution of wealth and profit from the proposed project and the exclusion of Baca County, Colo. from the project area
- **Floodplains and wetlands** – effects to floodplains and wetlands; protection of hydrologic processes, aquatic ecosystems and functioning riparian areas; development of a wetlands mitigation plan; establish buffer zones around perennial seeps and springs and wetlands
- **Geology** – especially as related to erosion and slope stability
- **Hazardous materials and solid waste** – potential for hazardous material leaks, spills and exposure
- **Health and safety** – effects to human and animal health cause by air pollution, electric and magnetic fields, slope-stability issues and erosion, static electricity or stray current
- **Land use, including residential, commercial and industrial uses** – compatibility of land uses such as conservation easements, residences, commercial and industrial areas, existing utility corridors, wind farms, agriculture and ranching and transportation
- **Noise** – effects of noise from construction and operation of the project, including electrical noise
- **Paleontology** – no comments received, but Federal law requires the EIS address effects to paleontological resources
- **Recreation** – effects on recreational activities and areas, including hunting and fishing and scenic resources, including mitigation measures to reduce intrusion into recreational areas
- **Social and economic values** – including effects on land and property values, loss of crops, noxious weeds, general economics of the project and the economic impact upon communities
- **Soils** – especially existing erosion of sandy soils caused by previous utility projects and the difficulty of reclamation in sandy soils
- **Special status species** – effects to special status species, including lesser prairie chicken, green toad, Topeka shiner and greater sage grouse and to rare vegetation and habitats such as remnant prairie and grassland revegetation areas

- **Vegetation, including noxious weeds** – effects to vegetation, including high quality or rare plant communities, local crops and vegetation; avoidance of large contiguous tracts of grassland and native prairie; sources of noxious weeds, including areas under transmission structures
- **Visual resources** – effects to viewsheds, including major and scenic roadways, homes and farmsteads, skyline visual effects and potential for light pollution and dust pollution
- **Water** – effects to water resources, including groundwater, surface water, drinking water and municipal water sources, effects to water quality and quantity; interaction of wells and irrigation systems with transmission structures
- **Wildlife, wildlife habitat and migratory birds** – effects to specific species, including dove, quail, deer, antelope, elk and horned lizards; displacement of wildlife and habitat fragmentation and the potential for bird collisions with transmission towers and lines and electrocution

## Cumulative effects

Western received comments suggesting other past, present or reasonably foreseeable projects be included in the discussion of the cumulative effects of the EPTP, including:

- Existing and proposed transmission lines
- Peak to Prairie Project and Fountain Creek Crown Jewel Project in El Paso and Pueblo counties, Colo.
- Relocation and widening of Highway 27 in Sherman County, Kan.
- Conglomeration of existing transmission lines and utility facilities and rights of way south of Sharon Springs, Kan.
- Southern Delivery Water Project
- Drought

## Tri-State's generation projects

Many comments suggested that Western should address the effects of Tri-State's generation projects in the EIS. Topics suggested for

analysis and discussion include:

- **Access and transportation** – disruption of local traffic flow during construction and operation of the generation facility, upgrades required to local infrastructure and increased railroad activity delivering coal to generation facilities
- **Agriculture** – loss of productive agricultural land when water is sold from the land for use in coal-fired power plants, increased deposits of various pollutants on agricultural regions
- **Air quality** – air pollution control measures, effects to human health, wildlife and agriculture from air quality issues including carbon dioxide, methane, mercury, atmospheric sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates and other pollutants
- **Alternatives to coal-fired generation** – including integrated gasification combined-cycle coal generation, natural gas and renewable sources of energy and financial analysis of generation alternatives
- **Climate** – greenhouse gas emissions and effects on global warming, carbon dioxide capture and storage technology
- **Cultural and historic resources** – effects to significant cultural or historic properties from construction and operation of the generation facilities
- **Cumulative effects** – effects related to new coal-fired generation units and coal consumption and combustion
- **Environmental justice** – health and environmental effects of the generation units on minority and low-income populations
- **Generation** – long-distance transmission of electricity vs. local, decentralized generation; technical details of generation plants, such as capacity, coal use and pollution control systems; water sources and delivery system
- **Hazardous materials and solid waste** – identity and characteristics of hazardous materials used, stored or transported at generation sites, analysis of waste disposal sites

Continued on page 6

# Public meetings set for Eastern Plains Transmission Project

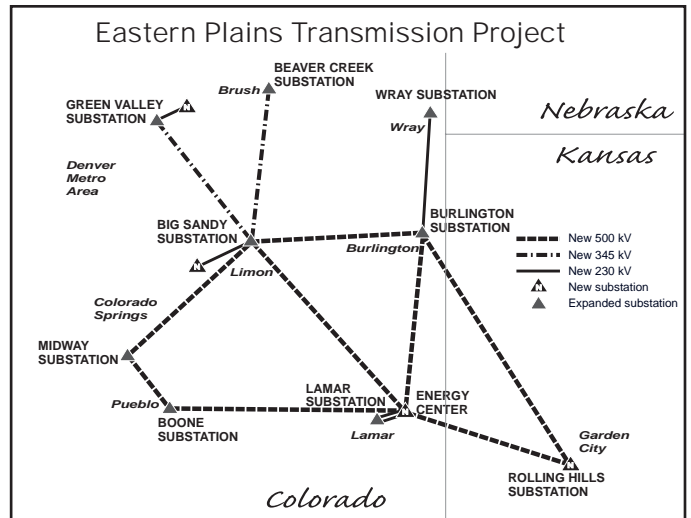
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facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.

Based on comments received at the public meetings in August and September 2006, and on other comments received, Western identified proposed transmission line routes and alternative routes to evaluate in the Environmental Impact

**(continued on reverse)**



Statement. Note that Western modified some of the alternatives presented at the meetings in August and September in response to comments. We encourage you to attend one of the upcoming meetings to review the proposals and provide your comments.

The open-house meetings will provide you an opportunity to see how previously received comments have been incorporated into the alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS, to review the proposed routes and alternative routes and to provide comments on the alternatives. In addition, you can continue to provide comments on other issues and concerns that should be evaluated in the EIS.

Comments can be submitted at one of the meetings or sent to Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration,

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations except the Feb. 22 meeting at Hanover High School, which will be held from 4 to 7 p.m.

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Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax 970-461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov). You can leave a voice message, toll-free at 888-826-4710. Comments should be received

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by March 9, 2007.

For more information, visit the project Web site online at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm>.

# POWERING the WEST

A publication of TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Winter 2007

## Open houses scheduled for Eastern Plains Transmission Project

*Transmission network draws interest from wind power developers*

Western Area Power Administration will host 10 public meetings on the Eastern Plains Transmission Project beginning Feb. 12 in Brush, Colo., and continuing across eastern Colorado and western Kansas through Feb. 23.

Tri-State and Western signed a joint participation agreement in 2005 to construct new high-voltage transmission lines and new or expanded substations in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.

The proposed transmission facilities will assist Tri-State to serve its member cooperatives and Western to serve its hydropower customers.

The open house meetings will share project information and proposed transmission line routing, as well as solicit public comments as Western prepares an environmental impact statement for the project. More than 350 individuals participated in the first round of open house meetings held during August and September 2006.

“The project includes a high-voltage, 500-kilovolt backbone, which has far reaching benefits to the region's interconnected transmission system,” said Tri-State vice president of project development Bill Boyd. “It serves both Tri-State and Western's loads while enhancing regional reliability, relieving existing transmission constraints and providing opportunities for additional interconnections, including those from wind developers.”

### *Project attracts interconnection inquiries from wind developers*

The proposed project is drawing interest from wind power developers in eastern and southern Colorado. The additional capacity provided by the transmission project provides benefits across the region. Applications to the G&T for interconnections from wind power projects now total over 1,000 megawatts since the transmission project was announced.

“Tri-State's investment in transmission infrastructure across the region supports wind projects by alleviating transmission constraints to make the projects economically viable,” said Boyd. “We're building lines near some of the best wind areas in the state.”

Generators looking to interconnect more than 20 megawatts of power to Tri-State's transmission system follow the Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP) outlined on the G&T's Open Access Same Time Information System (OASIS) Web site. These procedures outline the various evaluation and study phases leading to the development of an interconnection agreement under Tri-State's open access transmission tariff (OATT).

“Tri-State works closely with all parties that make interconnection requests,” said Larry Stark, Tri-State's OASIS/OATT administrator. “We treat all interconnection requests equally and consistent with the Tri-State LGIP, so it's a straightforward process.”



*Transmission open house participants reviewing transmission line routes near Wray, Colo.*

Following the completion of Western's environmental impact statement and record of decision, an estimated three-year construction period is scheduled to start in 2008, with the facilities in place and operational in 2011.

*See Page 3 for details on the open houses*

## Western Kansas leaders support Holcomb Station expansion

*Generation project would stabilize Tri-State member rates*

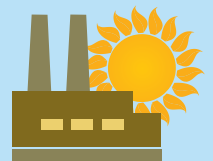
Leaders from western Kansas voiced their strong support for the issuance of an air permit for the Holcomb Station Expansion Project at public hearings in Garden City, Topeka and Lawrence, Kan., in October and November, 2006.

Testimony in support of the project was offered over 60 times during the three hearings, which were held by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Sunflower executives, along with local government, education and business leaders, and

*Continued on page 2*

### **New Web site details Holcomb Station Expansion Project**

Tri-State, Sunflower Electric and Golden Spread have launched a comprehensive Web site to provide information about the Holcomb Station Expansion Project. The Web site features extensive information about generation technology, environmental controls and economic benefits. Visit the Web site at [www.holcombstation.coop](http://www.holcombstation.coop).



area citizens, testified to the project's efficient technologies, advanced emissions controls and economic benefits.

Tri-State proposes to develop and own two of three new 700-megawatt units proposed for the existing coal-based, 360-megawatt Holcomb Station. Once the permitting process is complete, Tri-State's board of directors could authorize construction of the first unit, which would be online in 2012 and meet the G&T's load deficits. The association attributes its need for the new units to recent and forecasted growth among its 44 member cooperatives.

The association's annual system growth rate over the past 15 years has averaged between 3.5 and 4 percent per year and is forecasted to grow over 4 percent per year for the next 10 years. Tri-State is short on power to serve its member cooperatives, which has resulted in increased, expensive market power purchases that are driving member rates higher.

"The Holcomb expansion will provide Tri-State members with stable rates and a long-term, reliable source of power," said Tri-State vice president of project development Bill Boyd.

In addition to Tri-State's units, G&Ts Sunflower Electric Power Corporation and Golden Spread Electric Cooperative will own the additional new unit at Holcomb Station. Together, the three wholesale power suppliers serve more than 1.6 million consumer-owners of 66 electric cooperatives in seven states.

### *Strong support from western Kansas*

Prior to the hearings, local government, educators and business organizations publicly backed the project with formal resolutions of support.

Government entities that issued resolutions of support include both the Finney and Kearny County Board of County Commissioners, the Garden City Commission and the Holcomb City Council.

The Holcomb and Garden City public school districts, along with Garden City Community College, also issued resolutions of project support.

Numerous business leaders also are in favor of the plant expansion, and project endorsements have been received from the Garden City Area Chamber of Commerce and the Finney County Economic Development Corp.

"Western Kansans have confidence in the cooperatives," said Lee Boughey, Tri-State's public relations manager. "With Sunflower's strong operating record at Holcomb Station and the stringent emissions limits set by the State of Kansas in the proposed permit, the community understands that economic growth is not at the expense of the environment."

### *Environmental controls highlighted*

The project includes three new supercritical pulverized coal units and incorporates best available control technology to minimize air emissions. Through the use of mercury controls, mercury emissions from Holcomb Station should not increase above current levels.

"At the hearings, Sunflower demonstrated to state regulators and the public the facts about the project and our stellar record for emissions control at Holcomb," said Wayne Penrod, Sunflower executive manager/environment. "Our expansion will stand among the cleanest coal-based plants in the country."

A decision from the State of Kansas on the air permit is expected early in 2007.

## *Met tower to be constructed for Colorado Power Project*

Baseload generation resources inherently have long lead times for development. To ensure that Tri-State is prepared to meet future member cooperatives' load growth, the G&T has begun laying the necessary groundwork to develop a new power plant, known as the Colorado Power Project, in Prowers County in southeast Colorado. An exact site has not yet been selected for the facility, but preliminary planning and preparatory work has commenced, including environmental studies and land/water acquisition.

In early 2007, Tri-State will construct a meteorological tower to begin collecting data for the proposed project. The data collected will assist Tri-State in its preliminary planning work and could be used in a future permit application for the project.

The Colorado Power Project would be available for development to meet members' long-term power needs. Member load growth and economic factors would determine the development schedule, and the availability of new coal technologies could influence the project's design.

### **About Tri-State's resource planning...**

In 2005, Tri-State's board of directors authorized a long-range infrastructure building program, known as the resource development plan, to address current and forecasted deficiencies in baseload power supply. The plan positions Tri-State to construct new, baseload generation resources - when needed - to serve its member cooperatives' energy needs with a reliable, cost-efficient supply of power.

Components of Tri-State's resource planning include two baseload generating units at Holcomb Station in western Kansas and another unit at the Colorado Power Project in southeastern Colorado. The G&T's resource planning efforts include engineering and environmental studies, site acquisition and permitting and financial planning for these projects.

While Tri-State's long-term resource planning is focused on developing baseload generation resources, the association continues to evaluate renewable and alternative resource options and expanded demand-side management programs.

Tri-State will undertake further studies to review adding wind energy in its resource portfolio. Tri-State also will investigate further the issues related to integrating wind energy resources into its system.

Additionally, the G&T will investigate options to expand its energy efficiency programs. Tri-State already makes a significant investment in promoting demand-side management. In 2007, \$2 million was budgeted for Tri-State member systems' energy efficiency programs.





# Public meetings set for Eastern Plains Transmission Project

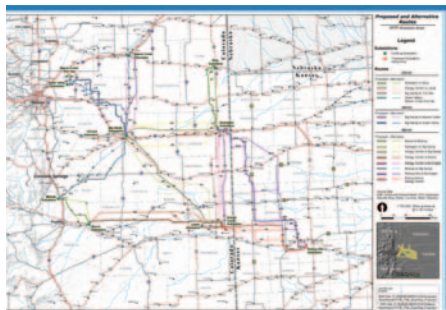
A second series of public meetings on proposed transmission facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas are set for 10 communities between Feb. 12 and Feb. 23.

Western Area Power Administration seeks comments on proposed and alternative routes for the Eastern Plains Transmission Project. Western proposes to participate with Tri-State in constructing approximately 1,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines and related facilities in eastern Colorado and western Kansas.

Based on comments received at public meetings in August and September 2006, and on other comments received, Western identified proposed transmission line routes and alternative routes to evaluate in its environmental impact statement. Note that Western modified some of the alternatives presented at the meetings in August and September in response to comments. The public is encouraged to attend one of the upcoming meetings to review the proposals and provide comments.

The open-house meetings provide an opportunity to see how previously received comments have been incorporated into the alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS, to review the proposed routes and alternative routes and to provide comments on the alternatives. In addition, the public can continue to provide comments on other issues and concerns that should be evaluated in the EIS.

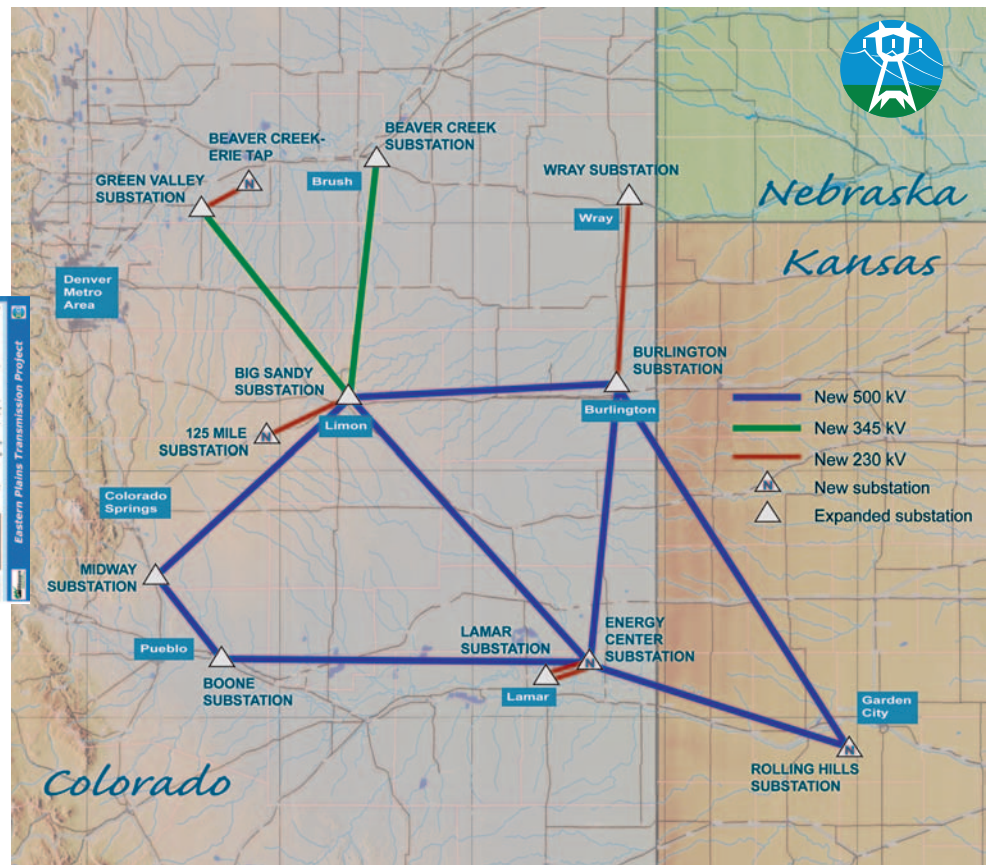
Comments can be submitted at one of the meetings or sent to Jim Hartman, Environmental Manager, Western Area Power Administration, Rocky Mountain Region, P.O. Box 3700, Loveland, CO 80539; fax 970-461-7213; or e-mail [eptp@wapa.gov](mailto:eptp@wapa.gov); or leave a voice message, toll-free at 888-826-4710. Comments should be received by March 9, 2007.



For more information and up-to-date maps, visit Western's Web site at [www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm](http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/eptp.htm)

Open-house meetings will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. at all locations, except the Feb. 22 meeting at Hanover High School, which will be held from 4 to 8 p.m.

- Feb. 12: Brush, Colo. – Carroll Building, 418 Edison St.
- Feb. 13: Limon, Colo. – Limon Community Building, South Room, 477 D Ave.
- Feb. 14: Burlington, Colo. – Burlington Education and Community Center, 420 S. 14th St.
- Feb. 15: Wray, Colo. – City Hall, Community Room, 245 W. 4th St.
- Feb. 16: Byers, Colo. – Byers High School, Meeting Room #537/#538, 444 East Front St.
- Feb. 19: Lakin, Kan. – Veteran's Memorial Building, 207 North Main St.
- Feb. 20: Sharon Springs, Kan. – Community Activity Building (CAB), Wallace County Fairgrounds
- Feb. 21: Lamar, Colo. – Lamar Community Building, Multi-Purpose Building, 610 S. 6th St.
- Feb. 22: Hanover, Colo. – Hanover Junior/Senior High School, Cafeteria/Auditorium, 17050 South Peyton Highway, Colorado Springs (Hanover).  
**NOTE: This meeting begins at 4 and ends at 8 p.m.**
- Feb. 23: Avondale, Colo. – McHarg Park Community Center Gym, 405 Second St.





## About Tri-State

Tri-State G&T is a wholesale electric power supplier owned by the 44 electric cooperatives that it serves. Tri-State generates and transmits electricity to its member systems throughout a 250,000 square-mile service territory across Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming, serving approximately 1.4 million end-use consumers.

Tri-State was founded in 1952 by its member systems to provide a reliable, cost-based supply of electricity. Headquartered in Westminster, Colo., more than 1,000 people are employed by the association throughout its four-state service area.

Tri-State's power is generated through a combination of owned baseload and peaking power plants that use coal and natural gas as their primary fuels, supplemented by purchased power, federal hydroelectricity allocations and other renewable resource technologies.

Tri-State's mission is to provide its member-owners a reliable, cost-based supply of electricity while maintaining a sound financial position through effective utilization of human, capital and physical resources in accordance with cooperative principles.

## *In this issue ...*

- *Transmission project open houses scheduled*
- *Western Kansas leaders support Holcomb Station expansion*
- *Planning continues for the Colorado Power Project*
- *Resource planning to examine wind power and expanded energy efficiency programs*

*Powering the West* is a publication of Tri-State G&T and is designed to share information about the company's resource planning activities with its member cooperatives and stakeholders. It is Tri-State's intention to communicate regularly and effectively with all concerned and affected parties as it moves forward in the planning of new facilities.

Updated information is available on its Web site at [www.tristategt.org/rdp](http://www.tristategt.org/rdp) or you can reach Lee Boughney, Tri-State's public relations manager, at 303-452-6111 or [lboughney@tristategt.org](mailto:lboughney@tristategt.org).

## **POWERING the WEST**



**TRI-STATE**

Generation and Transmission  
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A Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative 

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