

Journal

November 2012

New website, new look for bpa.gov

Visiting our website is easier than ever, thanks to a new design that offers a contemporary look and feel, as well as improved navigation and search functions. When you go to www.bpa.gov, you'll notice both familiar and new navigational elements. The top level of the website is divided into five major sections:

- **News & Us**

Find the latest news and information about the agency. General publications, fact sheets and records of decision are available here, and they will automatically appear on any of the related project and initiative pages you visit.

- **Projects & Initiatives**

Find information on initiatives such as wind integration and projects such as the I-5 Corridor Reinforcement. You'll find all related information for these topics, whether it's in the form of news, a report or a public event.

- **Finance & Rates**

Find agency financial information, financial public processes, rates and rate case process information.

- **Involvement & Outreach**

Find ways to engage with BPA through public comment and meeting opportunities. Also find our many educational initiatives and activities, including the annual Science Bowl, which BPA proudly sponsors each year.

- **Doing Business**

Find out how to do business with BPA. Discover how to buy and sell products/services from BPA or participate in our Technology Innovation program.

This initial step in improving our website is a big one, but just the first. For now, the redesign only accounts for the top-level site, www.bpa.gov. Below the top level are four sub-sites: Energy Efficiency, Environment, Fish & Wildlife, Power and Transmission. These sub-sites are still available from the BPA home page under "Navigate by function." Future phases of BPA's website redesign will include these sub-sites.

Thanks to those who helped us honor Matt Karstetter

In late September, BPA linemen and personnel from other utilities and companies arranged a dramatic tribute to fallen BPA Journeyman Matt Karstetter, who did not survive a fall from a BPA transmission tower earlier that month. Several organizations and companies helped create a "lineman procession" allowing us to express our appreciation for Matt's service to BPA and the region in a unique and respectful manner.

We thank Avista Public Utilities, Avista Line Construction School, the City of Cheney Light Department, Inland Power and Light, International Line Builders, Modern Electric, Sturgeon Electric, Pend Oreille PUD, Potelco, L&M Truck Sales, Wilson Construction, Vera Water and Power, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 77 and 125 for donating personnel and equipment.



Several utilities, contractors and other firms donated personnel and equipment for a lineman procession as a tribute to fallen BPA journeyman Matt Karstetter.



Watch ‘BPA Turns 75’ video series

For 75 years, the Columbia River has rolled on, providing power and prosperity to the people of the Pacific Northwest. Through clean, efficient hydroelectric power, the Columbia lifted a region from poverty and helped the nation win World War II. But much has changed over the past 75 years. While electricity brought light and life to the region, Native Americans lost a way of life. The tribes and BPA, who are now partners, work together to restore the fish runs and find new ways for tribes to be a consultative partner in issues related to the hydroelectric system.

The region’s relationship to electricity has also changed. Abundant power consumption has been replaced with conservation, and the Pacific Northwest is leading the way in this new era.

To commemorate the Northwest’s legacy of clean, affordable hydropower, we invite you to watch and share “BPA Turns 75: A Look Back and A Look Ahead.” This six-part series of short videos details the history and benefits of delivering power at cost; the economic, spiritual and cultural impacts of dam construction; and challenges, successes and partnerships that have marked the last 75 years. Three of the videos are posted at www.bpa.gov/goto/75thVideos. The remaining videos will be posted over the coming weeks.

Wind sets record, out-generates hydro

Two symbolically significant events took place in the early morning darkness Oct. 16.

It was one thing for wind generation to set a new hourly record with 4,273 megawatts. It was another, more surprising, event when wind generated more power than hydro for the first time.

At 2:50 a.m., wind generated 3,169 megawatts while hydro generated 3,165. Following its usual variability, wind out-generated hydro off and on through the day. In the wake of the passing weather front, wind was generating less than 100 MW by 1 p.m. the next day.

“These were interesting milestones in the history of wind generation in the Northwest,” says Elliot Mainzer, executive vice president for Corporate Strategy.

When the wind generation exceeded hydro generation that early morning, it represented about 38 percent of regional and export load.

It is noteworthy that both events took place during light load hours. When BPA has had to invoke its oversupply management protocol to limit wind generation, it has been during light load hours in the spring when hydro is generating vast amounts



of energy in response to the runoff in the Columbia River system. With river flows currently low, integrating the peak wind power was relatively uneventful as was adjusting to the quick drop off in wind generation.

“That these events did not pose any operational problems is a testimony to how much we have learned as we have integrated vast amounts of wind power,” Mainzer says.

Collaborative process helps BPA reduce costs

BPA has released a close-out report from the Integrated Program Review that highlights changes to the initial IPR numbers, a result of the collaborative process. The IPR takes place every two years before the agency’s Power and Transmission rate case to provide the region an opportunity to engage in a rigorous review of BPA’s programs and their value, goals and costs. The numbers in the close-out report feed into the initial rate proposal for the 2014–2015 fiscal years expected in November.

THIS YEAR MARKS BPA’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

On Aug. 20, 1937, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Bonneville Project Act to deliver the massive benefits of Columbia River hydropower — clean, inexpensive electricity — to citizens of the Pacific Northwest. BPA was built on the idea of providing power for the greater good, and we continue to serve with that spirit today.

TO LEARN MORE about BPA’s rich history, visit www.bpa.gov and check our **Facebook** page.



Comments from IPR participants helped inform BPA about stakeholders' opinions on which programs needed to be scaled back, accelerated, deferred or dropped entirely. As a result, costs were reduced. For details, read the report at www.bpa.gov/goto/IPR.

A look at energy efficiency's past

In 1986, "Just the facts, ma'am" was not just a Dragnet catchphrase, it was the premise for BPA's "Cold Facts Hot Ideas" appliance efficiency campaign. If you lived in the Northwest, you might remember three 30-second promotional commercials that aired on major television stations around the region.

In celebration of national Energy Awareness Month, BPA is showcasing these ads on its website. "Dragnet" and "Gas Pump" reminded consumers that there were major differences in energy consumption between new appliances. They also encouraged appliance shoppers to look at the EnergyGuide labels to find the models that delivered the most savings. Another ad, "Sherlock Holmes — The Case of the Blue Clue," informed consumers that they could call BPA for a list of the most energy-efficient new refrigerators and freezers and encouraged shoppers to look for BPA's blue ribbon (Blue Clue) on new appliances.

To see the ads, go to the Newsroom at www.bpa.gov.

Public Involvement [Updates & Notices]

AGENCY PROJECTS

BP-14 and OS-14 Rate Cases [Regionwide]

BPA will submit notices of its upcoming initial proposals to the Federal Register for publication on or about Nov. 8. The BP-14 rate proceeding will set rates for wholesale power, transmission services, and ancillary and control area services for FY 2014 and 2015. The OS-14 rate proceeding will establish rates to recover the costs incurred under BPA's Oversupply Management Protocol. BPA expects the formal rate setting process will conclude in late July 2013 when the administrator issues a final ROD in both proceedings. Ex parte restrictions apply to all DOE personnel during this time. Current rates expire Sept. 30, 2013. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/Finance/RateCases/Pages/default.aspx.

credited monthly on participants' power bills through Sept. 30, 2028. Participants will be selected in early December 2012. If selected, customers will provide funds to BPA in April 2013. The ROD is posted at www.bpa.gov/goto/powerprepay. [SEE CALENDAR]

Alcoa power supply contract [Regionwide]

BPA is seeking comments through Nov. 7 on the proposed long-term power sales agreement between BPA and Alcoa's Intalco plant in Ferndale, Wash. The proposed contract would provide long-term certainty to Alcoa and its employees while allowing BPA to serve energy needs that yield operational and financial benefits for the region. Under the proposed agreement, BPA would sell a maximum of 300 average megawatts to Alcoa at the Industrial Firm Power rate through Sept. 30, 2022. In addition, the proposed agreement requires Alcoa to: employ a specified number of workers at the Intalco facility for the duration of the contract; make 10 percent of the power delivered to Alcoa available to BPA should BPA need it to meet its obligations during a system disturbance; and invest \$35 million in capital improvements in the facility during the first seven years if it wants the contract to run for the full term. The contract is supported by the Equivalent Benefits Test, which helps BPA determine whether the proposal would produce net benefits to its ratepayers. BPA has amended Alcoa's existing Firm Power Sales Agreement through December 2012 to ensure continued service for Alcoa's load at the IP rate during the public comment period and final review of the proposed contract and EBT. The extension is consistent with sound business principles based on BPA's current market analysis comparing the price of electricity on the spot market to the IP rate. BPA expects to earn several million dollars in additional revenues during the extended term of the agreement. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/goto/DSI.

PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

POWER

Southeast Idaho Load Service options prioritized [Regionwide]

BPA has completed an initial prioritization of possible arrangements for customer service in southeast Idaho after 2011. This prioritization, while not final, marks an important step in the process of finding a replacement method of serving BPA's preference customers in southeastern Idaho after a service agreement with PacifiCorp expires in 2016. From among the six potential service options BPA is considering, the option of Boardman-to-Hemingway with Transmission Asset Swap is its top priority for pursuit in FY 2013 and beyond. More information on this and the five other options is posted at www.bpa.gov/goto/SoutheastIdahoLoadService.

Port Townsend power purchase contract [Regionwide]

BPA is completing a ROD on the proposal to extend Port Townsend Paper Corp.'s power purchase contract nine years. The amendment would provide power to the Port Townsend, Wash., paper mill at the Industrial Firm Power rate through September 2022, potentially preserving about 300 family wage jobs in a community of 8,300 residents. When the ROD is released, it will be posted at www.bpa.gov/goto/PTPC.

Prepayment Program decision explained in ROD [Regionwide]

BPA has decided to offer customers the option to prepay for a portion of their planned power purchases through FY 2028. Prepayment of power bills offers a potentially attractive low-cost method for funding the projects and a viable source of nonfederal financing. In consideration for the prepayment, the prepaid amount would be amortized and

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Lolo Creek permanent weir fish trapping facility [Clearwater County, Idaho]

BPA is considering comments on a proposal to fund the replacement of a 10-year-old seasonal fish weir. The draft EA is expected this fall. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/go/lolocreekweir.

Kootenai River Native Fish Aquaculture Program [Boundary County, Idaho]

BPA expects to release a preliminary EA this fall. For information, go to www.bpa.gov/go/kootenaiaquaculture.

Klickitat Hatchery Complex Program [Klickitat and Yakima counties, Wash.]

BPA is incorporating comments into the final EIS, expected in late 2012. For information, go to www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Klickitat_Hatchery_Program/.

TRANSMISSION

Precedent Transmission Service Agreement reform [Regionwide]

BPA continues negotiations with individual customers on their proposals to withdraw or modify PTSAs. BPA's goal is to complete negotiations by Nov. 16 and begin posting proposed agreements for public comment by Nov. 30. For information, go to http://transmission.bpa.gov/customer_forums/nos_gi_reform/.

Network Open Season and Generation Interconnection reform [Regionwide]

BPA is incorporating feedback from September and October workshops to refine its plan for the next Network Open Season process. The agency expects to update customers and stakeholders at a meeting in late November or early December. BPA will update the project website and external event calendar when a date is selected. For information, go to http://transmission.bpa.gov/customer_forums/nos_gi_reform/.

Pacific Direct Current Intertie Upgrade [Wasco, Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes and Lake counties, Ore.]

In October, BPA hosted three public scoping meetings in Lakeview, Prineville and The Dalles, Ore. Attendees received information about the proposed upgrade to the Pacific Direct Current Intertie and had the opportunity to provide comments. Work on a preliminary environmental assessment is underway. Contingent on environmental review and approval, construction is proposed to begin in January 2015 and would last about one year. Public comment period closed Oct. 29. Comments will be posted at www.bpa.gov/comment. For information, go to http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/PDCI_Upgrade/.

Northern Mid-Columbia joint transmission construction project [Douglas and Chelan counties, Wash.]

BPA and Douglas PUD are assessing potential environmental impacts of a proposed transmission construction project in Washington. Along with BPA, participants include PUD #1 of Douglas County, PUD #1 of Chelan County and PUD #2 of Grant County. Contingent on environmental review and approval, BPA and Douglas PUD would design and build a nine-mile 230-kV transmission line that interconnects

with BPA's Columbia Substation south of Rock Island, Wash. Interested parties are invited to attend an open house meeting on Nov. 14, in East Wenatchee, Wash. BPA is accepting public comments through Dec. 14. For information, go to http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/NMC_Joint_Project. [SEE CALENDAR]

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To view BPA's public involvement calendar, go to www.bpa.gov/go/calendar. For Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, please call toll free 800-622-4519.

Power Prepayment Program Live Meetings

- **Nov. 6**, 9 a.m. to noon
To participate by phone: 888-296-1938, pass code 259099
Live Meeting: www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join;
meeting ID: Prepay 201
- **Nov. 13**, 9 a.m. to noon
Phone bridge: 888-830-6260, pass code 644377
Live Meeting: www.livemeeting.com/cc/bpa/join;
meeting ID: Prepay 201

Northern Mid-Columbia Joint Transmission project public scoping meeting

- **Nov. 14**, 4 to 7:30 p.m., Douglas PUD Headquarters, main auditorium, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, Wash.

CLOSE OF COMMENT

Submit comments to www.bpa.gov/comment.

- **Nov. 7**, Alcoa Power Supply Contract
- **Dec. 14**, Northern Mid-Columbia joint transmission project

The Journal is a monthly publication of the Bonneville Power Administration. If you have questions or comments, or you want to be added to the mailing list for any project, call toll free (800) 622-4519.

To order copies of documents, call: (800) 622-4520 or (503) 230-7334. Written comments may be sent to: BPA, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR 97293-4428. E-mail address: comment@BPA.gov. BPA home page: www.bpa.gov. For details on BPA environmental reviews listed above, including site maps and documents issued to date, see www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/nepadocs.aspx. Process Abbreviations: EA-Environmental Assessment, EIS-Environmental Impact Statement, ESA-Endangered Species Act, FONSI-Finding of No Significant Impact, NOI-Notice of Intent, ROD-Record of Decision.

