



**PR 12 13**

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

CONTACT: Teresa Waugh, 503-230-7536  
or 503-230-5131

**BPA releases Hooper Springs Transmission Project draft EIS,  
invites public to meet**

Portland, Ore. - The Bonneville Power Administration will hold a public meeting in early April on the proposed 115-kv transmission line and supporting infrastructure in Caribou County, Idaho. The Hooper Springs Transmission Project is needed to improve system reliability, and to meet energy use increases in the winter as well as growing electricity needs in southeast Idaho and northwestern Wyoming.

The line would run from a proposed new BPA Hooper Springs Substation near the city of Soda Springs, Idaho, to a proposed BPA connection facility that would tie in Lower Valley Energy's existing transmission system in northeastern Caribou County. To connect the new line to the regional transmission grid, BPA also would construct a half-mile long line between the proposed Hooper Springs Substation and PacifiCorp's existing Threemile Knoll Substation.

A draft environmental impact statement is now complete. The document describes the proposed project and the environmental effects expected from construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed lines and substation. In addition, the draft statement further develops the routing and line design for the North and South alternatives, which range from 22 to 32 miles in length and include route options. BPA is also considering not building the transmission lines and supporting infrastructure. A preferred alternative has not yet been identified.

"It's critically important that local residents and all parties interested in this proposed project attend this meeting," said project manager Erich Orth. "We carefully consider each comment, which helps BPA refine the environmental analysis and decide whether to build the project. Our goal is to make the best informed decision possible."

The public meeting and presentation will be held at the following location:

**Wednesday, April 3, 2013**

5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Project overview presentation

5:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Oral comment period

5:30-6:30 p.m.

Soda Springs High School  
300 E. 1<sup>st</sup> N  
Soda Springs, Idaho 83276

Residents who can't attend the meetings can learn about the proposed transmission project at: <http://www.bpa.gov/goto/HooperSprings>. Or, send comments to [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment). Please submit comments either online or by phone at 800-622-4519 by April 22, 2013 and reference Hooper Springs Transmission Project.

**About BPA**

BPA is a nonprofit federal agency that markets renewable hydropower from federal Columbia River dams, operates three-quarters of high-voltage transmission lines in the Northwest and funds one of the largest wildlife protection and restoration programs in the world. BPA and its partners have also saved enough electricity through energy efficiency projects to power four large American cities. For more information, contact us at 503-230-5131 or visit our website at [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov).

###

---

**Bonneville Power Administration**  
905 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232  
**Mailing Address:** Media Relations - DKPM-7, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, OR 97208-3621  
**Phone:** (503)230-5131 **FAX:** (503) 230-4019 **Web Site:** <http://www.bpa.gov>