



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 491  
Vancouver, Washington 98666-0491

TRANSMISSION BUSINESS LINE

April 12, 2005

In reply refer to: Klondike III Wind Project Interconnection

### **To: People interested in BPA's Proposed Interconnection of the Klondike III Wind Project**

Bonneville Power Administration has been asked by PPM Energy, Inc. to interconnect 300 megawatts of electricity generated from the proposed Klondike III Wind Project to the Federal Columbia River Transmission System. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that based on feedback received at the March 1, 2005 public meeting and throughout the comment period, BPA has developed new alternatives for the proposed 230-kilovolt BPA transmission line route that would interconnect the Klondike III wind project and other proposed wind projects in the area. BPA has also extended the comment period to May 13, 2005.

### **Public Meeting**

BPA representatives will be available to discuss and answer any questions you may have about the proposed transmission line alternatives (described below) at a public meeting on:

**Wednesday, April 27, 2005**

6 - 8:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Parish Hall

807 Barnett Street

Wasco, OR 97065

### **Proposed Transmission Line Alternatives**

The three new proposed transmission line alternatives replace previously proposed alternatives. They are described below and are shown on the enclosed map for your review.

- North Alternative (green): This new alternative was developed in response to public comments including the expressed need to minimize the number of transmission lines built in the area. This route runs northwest from the Klondike Substation; due north from the intersection with Old Wasco-Heppner Highway; then northwest along Herrin Road to the John Day Substation.
- Middle Alternative (blue): The original alternatives in this area were modified to minimize farmland impacts by moving the transmission line to the corners and edges of property lines, to the extent possible. This route runs northwest from the Klondike Substation; due north to Medler Road; west along Medler Road; then north and west and north again along property lines to the John Day Substation.
- South Alternative (yellow): The original south alternative was modified by moving the east to west portion of the route approximately one-half mile further south to run along existing property lines and minimize farmland and residential impacts. This route runs due south from the Klondike Substation; then due west and parallel to Klondike Road; intersecting with an existing BPA right-of-way; then north, adjacent to the existing right-of-way to the John Day Substation.
- No Action Alternative: BPA would not build the transmission line and would not interconnect the Klondike III wind project or other wind projects proposed in the area.

BPA will evaluate the environmental impacts of each of these alternatives. The analysis will be included in the draft Environmental Impact Statement (draft EIS), which should be available for public review and comment in the summer of 2005. BPA will include information that is available on other wind developments in the area in the draft EIS. If BPA decides to interconnect the wind project, construction on the proposed BPA transmission line and BPA substations could begin as early as March 2006.

Based on input received at the March 1, 2005 public meeting and during the comment period, the five original alternatives listed below have been dropped from consideration.

- Alternative A: Northwest from the Klondike Substation; across a field to Klondike Road; north along Klondike Road; west along Medler Road; then northwest to the John Day Substation.
- Alternative B: This alternative ran northwest from the Klondike Substation; across a field to Klondike Road; north along Klondike Road, west along Medler Road; due west across China Hollow to the existing BPA right-of-way; then north, adjacent to the existing right-of-way to the John Day Substation.
- Alternative C: This alternative ran northwest from the Klondike Substation to the west end of Medler Road, then northwest to the John Day Substation.
- Alternative D: This alternative ran northwest from the Klondike Substation to the west end of Medler Road; due west across China Hollow to the existing BPA right-of-way; then north, adjacent to the existing right-of-way to the John Day Substation.
- Alternative E: West along Klondike Road passing south of the city of Wasco to the existing BPA right-of-way; then north, adjacent to the existing right-of-way to the John Day Substation.

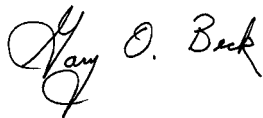
#### **How to Comment**

BPA has extended the comment period on BPA's proposal to interconnect the proposed Klondike III Wind Project to May 13, 2005. There are a number of ways to comment. You can mail the enclosed comment form to BPA Communications – DM-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR 97293-4428, fax them to 503-230-3285, send an e-mail to [comment@bpa.gov](mailto:comment@bpa.gov) or submit them on line at <http://www.bpa.gov/comment/>. Please include the name of this project with your comments.

#### **For More Information**

If you have questions or would like more information about the project or would like to receive a CD or hardcopy of the draft EIS, please call us toll-free at 1-888-276-7790. Additional information is posted on line at <http://www.transmission.bpa.gov/PlanProj/Wind/>. BPA is committed to providing reliable, low-cost transmission products and services to the region while minimizing environmental impacts and demonstrating regional accountability.

Sincerely,



Gary Beck  
Project Manager

Enclosures:

Project Area Map – Updated April 12, 2005  
Comment Form