

**APPENDIX A  
PUBLISHED NOTICES**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE****Forest Service****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[WY-920-08-5101-ER-K099; WYW-174598; IDI-35849]

**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, for the Gateway West 230/500 kV Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Wyoming and Possible Land Use Plan Amendments**

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Land Management, DOI; and Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Possible Land Use Plan Amendments, and notice of public scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and in response to a Right-of-Way (ROW) application filed by Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Wyoming State Office, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Caribou-Targhee and Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, announces their intention to prepare an EIS and conduct public scoping meetings. Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power propose to construct electric transmission lines from the proposed Windstar Substation near the Dave Johnston Power Plant at Glenrock, Wyoming to the proposed Hemingway substation near Melba, Idaho, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho. The project is composed of 11 transmission line segments with a total length of approximately 1,250 miles. Authorization of this proposal may result in the amendment of Forest Service and BLM land use plans (Forest Plans, Management Framework Plans, and Resource Management Plans).

**DATES:** This notice initiates the public scoping process. The BLM can best use public input if comments and resource information are submitted by July 03, 2008. To provide the public an opportunity to review the proposal and project information, the BLM expects to hold at least nine meetings in both Idaho and Wyoming along the proposed route. The meetings will be conducted in an "open house" format with the BLM staff and project proponents available to explain project details and gather information from interested individuals or groups. BLM is proposing to host open houses in the following communities: Casper, Kemmerer,

Rawlins, and Rock Springs, Wyoming; Boise, Montpelier, Murphy, Pocatello, and Twin Falls, Idaho. The BLM will announce the exact dates, times, and locations for these meetings at least 15 days prior to the event. Announcements will be made by news release to the media, individual letter mailings, and posting on the project Web site listed below.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments or resource information by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* [http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway\\_west](http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west).

- *E-mail:*

*Gateway\_West\_WYMail@blm.gov.*

- *Mail:* Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

- *Courier or Hand Deliver:* Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

Documents pertinent to the ROW application may be examined at:

- Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, Public Room, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82003, Telephone (307) 775-6256.

- Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State Office, Public Room, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709, Telephone (208) 373-3863.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Walter George, Gateway West Project Manager, Wyoming State Office, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003 or by e-mail to *Gateway\_West\_WYMail@blm.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power have submitted a ROW application to locate 230 and 500 kV electric transmission lines on federal lands. The proposed lines originate at the proposed Windstar Substation near the Dave Johnston Power Plant at Glenrock, Wyoming and end at the proposed Hemingway Substation, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho. The project is composed of 11 segments with a total length of approximately 1,250 miles. The requested ROW width varies from 150 to 250 feet. Approximately 500 miles or 40% of the total length traverses federally-administered land in Idaho and Wyoming.

In Idaho, approximately 300 miles crosses public land administered by seven BLM Field Offices: Bruneau, Burley, Four Rivers, Jarbidge, Owyhee, Pocatello, and Shoshone. In Wyoming, approximately 200 miles crosses public land administered by four BLM Field Offices: Casper, Kemmerer, Rawlins and Rock Springs. An alternate route may be

considered that involves approximately one mile of public lands in the Salt Lake Field Office of Utah. In addition, the proposed transmission line route crosses approximately 12 miles in two units of the National Forest System administered by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture: Two miles in the Douglas Ranger District of the Medicine Bow National Forest in Wyoming and ten miles in the Montpelier Ranger District of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest in Idaho.

The proposed route generally follows existing power lines in the Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power systems. The proposed route passes near the following towns and locations:

- In Wyoming: Casper, Hanna, Rawlins, Rock Springs, and Kemmerer.

- In Idaho: Montpelier, American Falls, Twin Falls, Glenns Ferry, Mountain Home, Burley, Shoshone, Jerome, and Boise.

BLM is the lead federal agency for the NEPA analysis process and preparation of the EIS. Cooperating agencies identified at this time include: The USFS, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Wyoming, Cassia County, Idaho, Lincoln and Sweetwater Counties, Wyoming. Other states and local governments will be invited to participate as cooperating agencies.

Through public scoping, the BLM expects to identify various issues, potential impacts, mitigation measures, and alternatives to the proposed action. At present, the BLM has identified the following issues and concerns:

- Effects on wildlife habitat, plants, and animals including threatened, endangered, and sensitive species.

- Effects to visual resources and existing view sheds.

- Effects to National Historic Trails and their view sheds.

- Effects to Native American traditional cultural properties and respected places.

- Effects to soils and water from surface disturbing activities.

- Land use conflicts and inconsistency with land use plans.

- Effect of the project on local and regional socioeconomic conditions.

- Increased potential for introduction and spread of noxious weeds and the ability to efficiently reclaim lands disturbed by transmission line construction or location.

The BLM will analyze the proposed action and no action alternatives, as well as other possible alternatives to the proposed power line location and access routes. The BLM encourages you to send us your comments concerning the

power line project as proposed and feasible alternative locations, possible mitigation measures, and any other information relevant to the proposed action.

Authorization of this proposal may require amendment of one or more Forest Service or BLM land use plans. By this notice, BLM is complying with requirements in 43 CFR 1610.2(c) and the USFS is complying with 36 CFR 219.9 to notify the public of potential amendments to land use plans. If a Resource Management Plan, Management Framework Plan, or Forest Plan Amendment is necessary, BLM and USFS will integrate the land use planning process with the NEPA analysis process for this project. The environmental decision document for the BLM will be signed by the Wyoming State Director, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009. Approving officials for the USFS are: Regional Forester, Region 2, 740 Simms Street, Golden, Colorado 80401-4720 and Regional Forester, Region 4, 324 25th Street, Ogden, Utah 84401.

Your input is important and will be considered in the environmental analysis process. All comment submittals must include the commenter's name and street address. Comments including the names and addresses of the respondent will be available for public inspection at the above offices during its business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or any other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information may be publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Any persons wishing to be added to a mailing list of interested parties can call or write to BLM, as described in this notice. Additional informational meetings may be conducted throughout the process to keep the public informed of the progress of the EIS.

Dated: May 5, 2008.

**Robert G. Mickelsen,**  
Acting Forest Supervisor.

Dated: May 12, 2008.

**James K. Murkin,**  
Acting State Director.

[FR Doc. E8-11060 Filed 5-15-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Environmental Impact Statement for Implementing the Travel Management Rule for the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and Crooked River National Grassland, Deschutes & Ochoco National Forests, Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson, Klamath, Grant and Lake Counties, OR

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposed action to implement 36 CFR parts 212, 251, 261, and 295; Travel Management: Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use; Final Rule (Travel Management Rule). The Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Crooked River National Grassland propose to prohibit motorized travel<sup>1</sup> outside of 300' of the centerline of those existing designated routes (roads and trails) and areas that currently allow motorized use and that are not otherwise restricted or prohibited for such use by law, regulation, policy, order, Land and Resource Management Plans (Forest Plans), or other past administrative decisions. Class of vehicles (highway licensed and/or non-highway licensed) and season(s) of use that motorized access to dispersed campsites would be allowed would match the adjacent designated route classification and seasonal use period. Special provisions for motorized access only to designated, defined, or existing campsites, and/or prohibitions from motorized access would be applied adjacent to routes and within areas specified on the Proposed Action maps. Identification of routes with special provisions and/or prohibitions would be based on a set of criteria for establishing exceptions to the general provision for 300' motorized access adjacent to designated routes in the proposed action. No new motorized access to areas currently prohibited to motorized access would be included in the proposed action.

The proposed action would amend the Ochoco National Forest Plan by deleting forest plan standards and guidelines that are not consistent with the Travel Management Rule and the proposed action. The proposed action would amend the Deschutes National Forest Plan to make minor (1-2 day)

<sup>1</sup> Over the snow vehicles are excluded from this proposed action.

corrections to some motorized season of use dates for consistency with other similar season of use dates, and change some analysis requirements from outdated "implementation units" to watershed or similar sized ecologically-based areas. The alternatives will include the proposed action, no action, and additional alternatives that respond to issues generated through the scoping process. The agency will give notice of the full environmental analysis and decision making process so interested and affected people may participate and contribute to the final decision.

**Location:** The proposed action includes all of the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and Crooked River National Grassland. These federal lands are located in the vicinity of the central Oregon cities of Bend, Prineville, and Madras. The proposed action applies only to National Forest and Grassland lands, although lands of other than federal ownership lie adjacent or interspersed across the landscape with national forests and grasslands.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis, issues about the proposed action, or alternatives to the proposed action are most helpful if received within 30 days following the date that this notice appears in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to the Deschutes National Forest at 1001 SW Emkay, Bend, OR 97701 Attention: Mose Harris, Travel Management Team.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mose Harris, Writer-Editor, Mollie Chaudet, Peggy Fisher, or Laurel Skelton, at the Deschutes National Forest Headquarters, 1001 SW Emkay, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 383-5300.

**Responsible Officials:** The Responsible Officials are John Allen, Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest and Jeff Walter, Forest Supervisor, Ochoco National Forest.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose and Need:** In 2005, the Forest Service published a final rule in the **Federal Register**: 36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, and 295; Travel Management: Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use; Final Rule (Travel Management Rule). Currently, the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests have over 9000 miles of designated routes (roads and trails), and a few designated areas that are open to a variety of highway and non-highway licensed vehicles. There is a variety of laws, regulations, and policies that result in a mixture of areas of the Forests and Grassland that do or do not allow motorized access off of these designated routes. The 2005 Travel

## Exhibit A-2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Wyoming News Release[<< Back to 2008 News Releases](#)

May 16, 2008

## Contact:

Walt George, BLM Project Manager  
307-775-6116

## BLM Seeks Public Input on Proposed Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Wyoming

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced today that it is seeking public comment on the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will evaluate alternatives for a right-of-way to construct high-voltage power lines across portions of Wyoming and Idaho. Project proponents are Idaho Power Company, a division of IdaCorp, and Rocky Mountain Power, a division of PacifiCorp. The announcement was published in the Federal Register on May 16, 2008 and initiates a 45-day public scoping process.

The BLM and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) expect to host nine open-houses in both Idaho and Wyoming along the proposed corridor to provide the public an opportunity to review the proposal and project information, according to Walter George, Gateway West Project Manager for the BLM in Wyoming. Staff and project proponents will be available at each open-house to explain project details and gather information from interested individuals or groups. Through the scoping process, BLM and USFS expect to gather public input on resources and issues that should be addressed in the EIS; route alternatives that should be analyzed in detail in the EIS; and sources of information that may be used in the environmental analysis.

Open houses are planned on the following dates in the following communities. All meetings will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, June 3, 2008: Twin Falls, Idaho (Red Lion Canyon Springs Inn, 1357 Blue Lake Blvd. N.)
- Tuesday, June 3, 2008: Murphy, Idaho (Owyhee County Museum, 17085 Basey St.)
- Wednesday, June 4, 2008: Pocatello, Idaho (Pocatello City Hall, 911 N. 7th Ave.)
- Wednesday, June 4, 2008: Boise, Idaho (Holiday Inn Boise Airport, 3300 Vista Ave.)
- Thursday, June 5, 2008: Montpelier, Idaho (Bear Lake Senior High School, 330 Boise Ave.)
- Monday, June 9, 2008: Casper, Wyo. (Ramada Plaza Riverside, 300 W. F St.)
- Tuesday, June 10, 2008: Rawlins, Wyo. (The Jeffrey Center, 315 W. Pine St.)
- Wednesday, June 11, 2008: Rock Springs, Wyo. (BLM Field Office, 280 Highway 191 N.)
- Thursday, June 12, 2008: Kemmerer, Wyo. (Kemmerer High School, 1525 3rd W. Ave.)

Comments can also be made to the BLM via the project Web site at [www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway\\_west](http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west), via the project E-mail address ([Gateway\\_West\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:Gateway_West_WYMail@blm.gov)) or in writing to Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003. To be most useful, public comment should be received by July 3, 2008.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Wyoming News Release

[<< Back to 2008 News Releases](#)

June 16, 2008

Contact:

Walter George, Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 307-775-6116  
Roger Alexander, Office of Communications, BLM Wyoming, 307-775-6047

## **BLM Seeks Public Input on Proposed Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Wyoming**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) continues to seek public comment on the proposed Gateway West Transmission Line Project in Wyoming and Idaho.

This project, proposed by Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power, would result in the construction of nearly 1,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines across southern Wyoming and southern Idaho. Public input is important to the BLM to inform further analysis of project effects to the natural and built environments and in preparation of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS). The public comment period for the scoping process closes on July 3, 2008.

"We have just completed nine public scoping meetings for the preparation of the draft EIS in Idaho and Wyoming and I encourage the public to continue to submit comments on this proposed project," said Walter George, Gateway West Project Manager for the BLM. "Public input is crucial to the draft EIS, which will examine project alternatives and potential project effects," explained George. Public scoping meetings were held in Idaho and Wyoming June 3 through 12, 2008 to provide an opportunity to learn about the project and discuss project details with BLM staff and project proponents.

In addition, materials from the public scoping meetings are available on the BLM project web site, noted below. The public is encouraged to continue to comment on the project, as well as sign-up on the project mailing list in the following ways:

- Via the Gateway West Web site at [http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway\\_west](http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west)
- Via E-mail at [Gateway\\_West\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:Gateway_West_WYMail@blm.gov)
- In writing to Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003
- Hand or courier-delivered to Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, 5353 Yellowstone Highway, Cheyenne, WY 82009

The BLM Wyoming State Office, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Caribou-Targhee and Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests will prepare the draft EIS following the conclusion of the public scoping period. The draft EIS will be published in spring 2009. Public hearings and a 60-day public comment period will follow the release of the document.

Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power have applied to the BLM and USFS for right-of-way grants to construct, operate and maintain high voltage transmission lines from the proposed Windstar substation near Glenrock, Wyo., to the proposed Hemingway substation near Melba, Idaho, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho.

While the BLM is the lead federal agency for this project, it is working with cooperating agencies identified at this time as the USFS, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Wyoming, Twin Falls and Power Counties, Idaho, Lincoln and Sweetwater Counties, Wyo. The notice of intent to prepare the EIS was published in the Federal Register on May 16, 2008, which kicked off a 45-day public scoping period that concludes on July 3, 2008.

- BLM -

The BLM Wyoming State Office and the Caribou-Targhee and Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, will prepare the EIS and conduct public scoping meetings on the proposal to construct electric transmission lines from the proposed Windstar Substation near Glenrock, Wyo. to the proposed Hemingway substation near Melba, Idaho, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise. The project, referred to as Gateway West, is composed of 11 transmission line segments with a total length of approximately 1,250 miles. A preliminary project map is located on the web site. Authorization of this proposal may result in the amendment of Forest Service and BLM land use plans.

BLM is the lead federal agency for the preparation of the EIS. Cooperating agencies identified at this time include: the USFS, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Wyoming, Cassia County, Idaho, Lincoln and Sweetwater Counties, Wyo. Other states and local governments will be invited to participate as cooperating agencies.

To be added to the project mailing list, email [Gateway\\_West\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:Gateway_West_WYMail@blm.gov).

For further information, contact the Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

- BLM -

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT,  
FOR THE GATEWAY WEST 230/500 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT IN  
IDAHO AND WYOMING AND POSSIBLE LAND USE PLAN AMENDMENTS.**

**AGENCIES:** Bureau of Land Management, DOI; and Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Possible Land Use Plan Amendments, and notice of public scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and in response to a Right-of-Way (ROW) application filed by Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Wyoming State Office, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Caribou-Targhee and Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, announces their intention to prepare an EIS and conduct public scoping meetings. Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power propose to construct electric transmission lines from the proposed Windstar Substation near the Dave Johnston Power Plant at Glenrock, Wyoming to the proposed Hemingway substation near Melba, Idaho, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho. The project is composed of 11 transmission line segments with a total length of approximately 1,250 miles. Authorization of this proposal may result in the amendment of Forest Service and BLM land use plans (Forest Plans, Management Framework Plans, and Resource Management Plans).

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- Thursday, June 12, 2008: Kemmerer, Wyoming (Kemmerer High School, 1525 3rd W. Ave.)

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- E-mail: Gateway\_West\_WYMail@blm.gov
- Mail: Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003
- Courier or Hand Deliver: Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009

Documents pertinent to the ROW application may be examined at:

- Bureau of Land Management  
Wyoming State Office, Public Room  
5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82003  
Telephone (307) 775-6256
- Bureau of Land Management  
Idaho State Office, Public Room  
1387 South Vinnell Way  
Boise, Idaho 83709  
Telephone (208) 373-3863

All comment submittals must include the commenter's name and street address. Comments including the names and addresses of the respondent will be available for public inspection at the above offices during its business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or any other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment,

including your personal identifying information may be publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Walter George, Gateway West Project Manager, Wyoming State Office, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003 or by email to [Gateway\\_West\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:Gateway_West_WYMail@blm.gov).