Gateway West Transmission Line Project

BLM

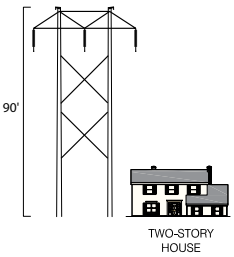
Segment 1W
Agency preferred alternatives

Proposed routes 1W(a) and 1W(c)

The preferred alternative combines two routes that were originally proposed as 1W(a) and 1W(c).

- Proposed route 1W(a), identified as the proponents' new proposed route in February 2012, now includes portions of former alternative 1E in the vicinity of Glenrock, Wyoming. The route crosses Converse, Natrona and Carbon counties and would connect the Windstar (near Glenrock) and Aeolus substations (near Medicine Bow).
- The proposed route 1W(c), reconstruction of a portion of the Dave Johnston and Freezeout 230 kilovolt (kV) lines, uses an existing right-of-way. The route crosses Converse, Natrona, and Carbon counties and would also tie into the Heward and Shirley Basin substations.

Proposed tower design



Type: 230 kV single circuit steel H-frame structures

Height: 60 to 90 feet

Minimum ground clearance: 28 feet

Average span: 800 feet

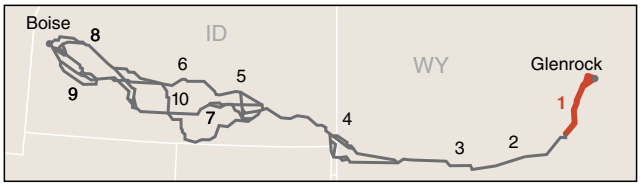
Right-of-way: 125 feet

Note: The exact quantity, distance, and placement of structures will depend on the final detailed design, which is influenced by terrain, land use, environmental constraints, and economics.

Why is this the agency preferred alternative?

- Considers existing Dave Johnston to Freezeout 230 kV transmission line, wildlife resources (sage-grouse, big game winter range, and raptors), cultural resources, historic trails, and wetlands.
- Primarily located in designated corridors on public land.
- Route 1W(c) limits impact to the existing corridor, which consists of rebuilding an existing transmission line.
- Route 1W(a) parallels an existing transmission line (route 1W(c)).
- Complies with the Wyoming Governor's sage-grouse executive order.
- Considers the State of Wyoming's preferred alternative, as documented in the final EIS.
- The BLM only identified a preferred alternative in the segment where it crosses public land. The BLM did not identify a preference between Alternative 1W(a)-B and 1W(a) where it crosses private land near Banner Mountain.

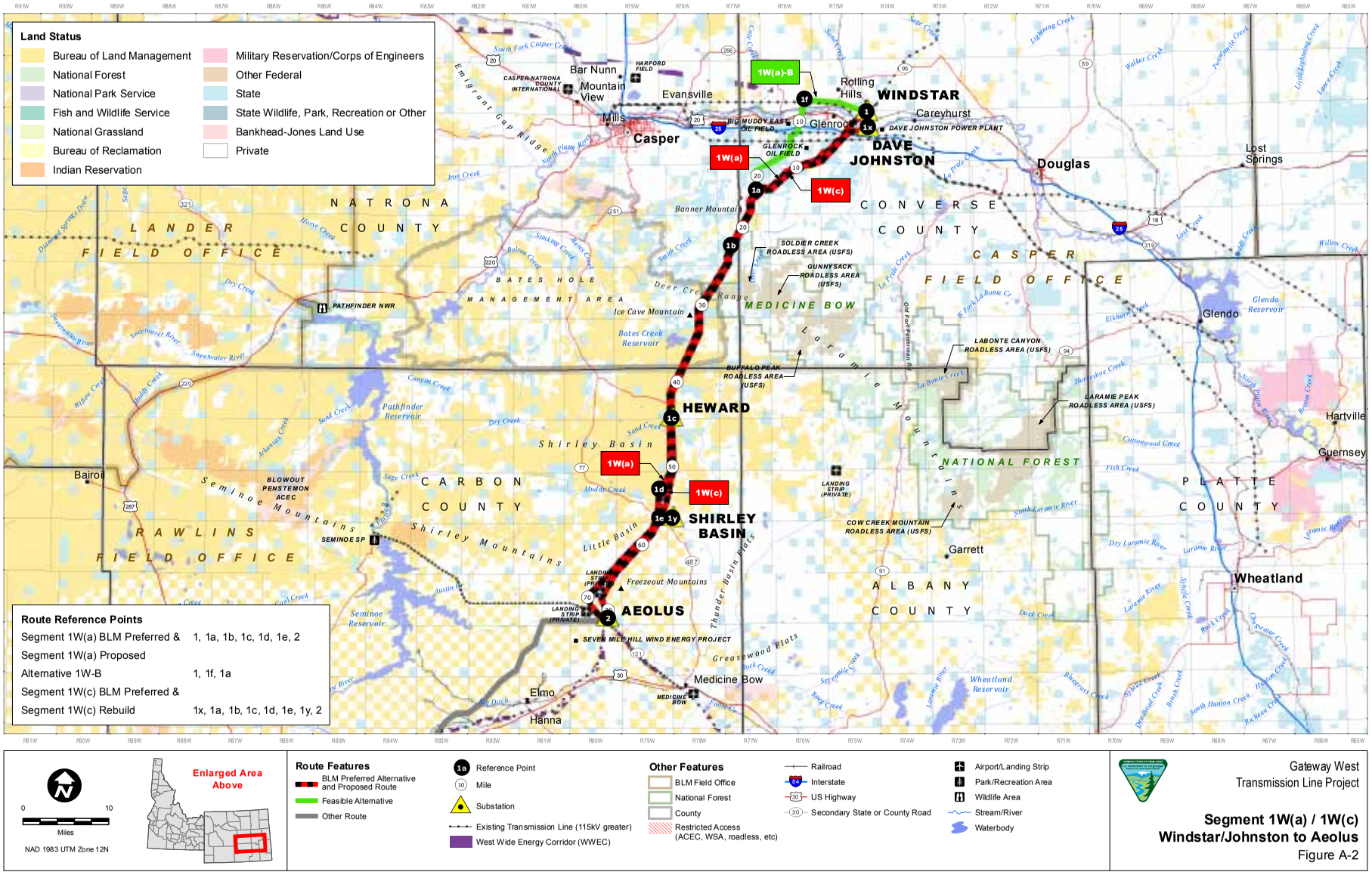
Additional information on all of the routes and agency preferred alternatives can be found in Chapter 2 of the final EIS.



Background

In August 2012, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) identified agency preferred alternatives following consideration of comments submitted on the draft EIS, changes to the project made in February 2012 by the project proponents and in coordination with state, local and federal governments and agencies.

Please note that agency preferred alternatives apply only to federally-managed land.

April 2013

Segment 1W: Windstar/Johnston Substations to Aeolus Substation