

Appendix A

Revised Environmental Protection Measures and Plans

Gateway West Transmission Line Project

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1.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MEASURES

This appendix specifies Environmental Protection Measures (EPM) that Idaho Power Company and Rocky Mountain Power (the Companies) have incorporated as their best management practices and as part of the Project description. These measures have been developed by the Companies to maintain environmental quality and meet requirements of various land management plans. These measures apply project-wide unless modified through negotiations with individual landowners or superseded by permits granted by federal, state, or local agencies. The Companies will be responsible to ensure their contractors and employees will implement these measures. These EPMs apply to construction, operation, and maintenance as appropriate.

Additional environmental protection measures are proposed in:

- Appendix B - Preliminary Reclamation Plan describing pre-construction planning, methods to limit erosion, a framework for the reclamation process and post construction monitoring and reporting standards to be followed.
- Appendix C (R) – Revised Proposed Plant and Wildlife Conservation Plan – Construction Activities
- Appendix D (R) - Revised Plan for Operations, Maintenance, and Emergency Response Activities

This appendix (Appendix A) contains five attachments. Each Attachment presents the EPMs that the Companies are presenting as part of the Gateway West Transmission Line Project (Gateway West or Project). These include:

Attachment A, Traffic and Transportation Management, includes measures that require compliance with federal policies and standards relative to planning, siting, improvement, maintenance, and operation of roads for the Project.

Attachment B, Stormwater Pollution Prevention, includes measures for temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control that will be used during construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line and ancillary facilities.

Attachment C, Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasures, includes measures for spill prevention practices, requirements for refueling and equipment operation near waterbodies, procedures for emergency response and incident reporting, and training requirements.

Attachment D, Cultural Resource and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation, presents the procedures undertaken to inventory, evaluate, and protect cultural resources, treatment of any eligible or listed resource that cannot be avoided, and inadvertent discoveries during construction, operation, and maintenance.

Attachment E, Blasting, outlines the procedures and safety measures for blasting activities.

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLANS

Each of these attachments serves as the basis for one or more plans that the Companies must produce and submit to the BLM, Forest Service, and other appropriate agencies with regulatory authority over lands within the Project, for review and approval before receiving a Notice to Proceed to construct. These plans will include site-specific means of implementing the measures listed in this appendix, and cannot be finalized until the preferred route is chosen and the final design is advanced. Each of the attachments specifies elements that the plan must address and sets the standards that the plans must meet in order to be approved.

3.0 LITERATURE SOURCES

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**ATTACHMENT A
TRAFFIC AND
TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT**

Traffic and Transportation Management

This Attachment presents protection measures to be used to minimize impacts on roads, traffic, and other users of roads, and to reduce dust. The Companies will prepare a Traffic and Transportation Management Plan, once the locations of access roads and crossings are known, that demonstrates how the measures specified herein will be implemented in the field.

- TR-1 A Traffic and Transportation Management Plan will be developed and implemented to provide site-specific details showing how the Project will comply with the EPMs listed in this attachment. This plan will be submitted to and approved by the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies with authority to regulate use of public roads, and approved, prior to the issuance of a Notice to Proceed with construction.
- TR-2 Dust suppression techniques will be applied, such as watering construction areas or removing dirt tracked onto a paved road as necessary to prevent safety hazards or nuisances on access roads and in construction zones near residential and commercial areas and along major highways and interstates.
- TR-3 If the Project proposes to obtain water from wells or surface water sources to suppress dust, written approval from the landowner or regulatory agency will be obtained prior to appropriation.
- TR-4 If a construction method requires the closure of a state or county maintained road for more than 1 hour, a plan will be developed to accommodate traffic as required by a county or state permit.
- TR-5 On county and state maintained roads, caution signs will be posted on roads, where appropriate, to alert motorists of construction and warn them of slow traffic. Traffic control measures such as traffic control personnel, warning signs, lights, and barriers will be used during construction to ensure safety and to minimize traffic congestion.
- TR-6 To reduce traffic congestion and roadside parking hazards, an equipment yard will be provided for primary parking for employee personal vehicles.
- TR-7 Unauthorized vehicles will not be allowed within the construction right-of-way (ROW) or along roadsides near the ROW.
- TR-8 Construction vehicles will follow a 25 mph speed limit on unposted project roads.
- TR-9 All temporary culverts and associated fill material will be removed from stream crossings after construction.
- TR-10 Landowners will be notified at least 48 hours prior to the start of construction within one-quarter mile of a residence.
- TR-11 Emergency vehicle access to private property will be maintained.
- TR-12 Roads in residential areas will be restored as soon as possible, and construction areas near residences will be fenced off at the end of the construction day.
- TR-13 Roads negatively affected by construction and as identified by the agencies, will be returned to preconstruction condition.
- TR-14 Roads identified by the Companies as no longer necessary will be reclaimed as specified in the Reclamation, Revegetation, and Weed Management Plan.

**ATTACHMENT B
STORMWATER
POLLUTION PREVENTION**

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

This attachment addresses measures to be undertaken to prevent stormwater pollution. To comply with criteria in Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Clean Water Act, all construction site operators engaged in clearing, grading, and excavating activities that disturb one acre or more, must obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for stormwater discharges (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Parts 122 and 123). NPDES permits (also called Construction General Permits) are issued by EPA or similar authorized state entity following submittal of a Notice of Intent (NOI) for construction activities, and preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) that describes how erosion and sediment transport will be minimized to adjacent waterbodies. At a minimum, two SWPPPs will be necessary for Gateway West. Wyoming has its own stormwater control program; therefore construction stormwater plans in Wyoming will be submitted to Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Measures to assure that construction activities comply with state and EPA requirements for stormwater management to be incorporated into the SWPPP include:

- SW-1 The appropriate NPDES permits for construction activities that disturb one acre or more of land will be obtained from DEQ and EPA.
- SW-2 NPDES permit requirements will be met. This includes implementing and maintaining appropriate BMPs for minimizing impacts to surface water.
- SW-3 One or more responsible persons will be designated to manage stormwater issues, conduct the required stormwater inspections, and maintain the appropriate records to document compliance with the terms of the NPDES permit.
- SW-4 The SWPPPs will be modified as necessary to account for changing construction conditions.
- SW-5 The SWPPPs will identify areas with critical erosion conditions that may require special construction activities or additional BMPs to minimize soil erosion.
- SW-6 Migration of construction-related sediment to all adjacent surface waterbodies will be prevented.
- SW-7 Stormwater BMPs will be maintained on all disturbed lands during construction activities, as described in the SWPPP.
- SW-8 Approved sediment and erosion control BMPs will be installed and maintained until disturbed areas meet final stabilization criteria.
- SW-9 Temporary BMPs will be used to control erosion and sediment at staging areas (equipment storage yards, fly yards, lay down areas) and substations.
- SW-10 The construction schedule may be modified to minimize construction activities in rain-soaked or muddy conditions.
- SW-11 Damaged temporary erosion and sediment control structures will be repaired in accordance with the SWPPP.
- SW-12 Upon completion of construction, permanent erosion and sediment BMPs will be installed along the transmission line within the ROW, at substations, and at related facilities in accordance with the SWPPPs.

In areas of droughty soils, the soil surfaces will be mulched and stabilized to minimize wind erosion and to conserve soil moisture in accordance with the SWPPPs.

**ATTACHMENT C
SPILL PREVENTION,
CONTAINMENT, AND
COUNTERMEASURES**

Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasures

This attachment outlines spill prevention practices and requirements for refueling and equipment operation near waterbodies, procedures for emergency response and incident reporting, and training requirements. The Companies will prepare a Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC Plan) for review and approval by the appropriate regulatory agencies. That plan will include site-specific implementation of cleanup procedures in the event of soil contamination from spills or leaks of fuels, lubricants, coolants, or solvents as outlined in this attachment.

- SPC-1 Construction industry standard practices and BMPs will be used for spill prevention and containment.
- SPC-2 Construction spills will be promptly cleaned up and contaminated materials hauled to a disposal site that meets local jurisdictional requirements.
- SPC-3 All staging areas will contain fueling areas with containment. Where fueling must be conducted along the ROW, the plan will specify BMPs.
- SPC-4 If an upland spill occurs during construction, berms will be constructed with available equipment to physically contain the spill. Absorbent materials will be applied to the spill area. Contaminated materials will be excavated and temporarily placed on and covered by plastic sheeting in a containment area a minimum of 100 feet away from any wetland or waterbody, until proper disposal is arranged.
- SPC-5 If a spill occurs which is beyond the capability of on-site equipment and personnel, an Emergency Response Contractor will be identified and available to further contain and clean up the spill.
- SPC-6 For spills in standing water, floating booms, skimmer pumps, and holding tanks will be used as appropriate by the contractor to recover and contain released materials on the surface of the water.
- SPC-7 If pre-existing contamination is encountered during operations, work will be suspended in the area of the suspected contamination until the type and extent of the contamination is determined. The type and extent of contamination; the responsible party; and local, state, and federal regulations will determine the appropriate cleanup method(s) for these areas.
- SPC-8 The SPCC Plan will include details on the types and quantities of absorbent and protective materials (e.g., visqueen, booms) that must be readily available to construction personnel and requirements for the restocking of materials.
- SPC-9 Materials such as fuels, other petroleum products, chemicals, and hazardous materials including wastes will be located in upland areas at least 500 feet away from streams, 400 feet for public wells, and 200 feet from private wells.
- SPC-10 Pumps and temporary fuel tanks for the pumps will be stored in secondary containment. Containment will provide a minimum volume equal to 110 percent of the volume of the largest storage vessel located in the yard.

**ATTACHMENT D
CULTURAL RESOURCE
AND PALEONTOLOGICAL
MONITORING AND
MITIGATION**

Cultural Resource and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation

This attachment presents the procedures to be undertaken to inventory, evaluate, and protect cultural and paleontological resources. In addition to preparing a Cultural Resource and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan, the Companies will prepare and submit a Treatment Plan for any historic property eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) that will be impacted by the Project. The plan will specify how each property will be treated, including mitigation measures. The Plan will include an Unanticipated Discovery Plan that details the steps to be taken during construction in response to a new find of an historic property potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP during construction.

- CUL-1 All work conducted under the Cultural Resources and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan will be performed by qualified paleontologists and archeologists with trained assistants.
- CUL-2 An Unanticipated Discovery Plan will be included as part of the Cultural Resources and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan. This plan will specify what steps will be taken if a subsurface cultural resource or fossil is discovered during construction, including stopping construction in the vicinity of the find, notification of the appropriate land management agency, identification of a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist to conduct an evaluation of the find, and the development of an approved data recovery program or other mitigation measures.
- CUL-3 The Cultural Resource and Paleontological Monitoring and Mitigation Plan will include provisions for the preparation and curation of any fossil collections from federal lands and for the preparation of a final report based on the data recovered for activities on federal lands.
- CUL-4 Class I and Class III surveys will be completed for cultural resources. Class I surveys will be conducted on public and private lands and will cover a study area of one mile on either side of the proposed and alternate transmission line alignments as well as areas identified for use as staging areas and access roads. Class III surveys will be conducted on 100 percent of federal and state lands, and for those private lands for which survey access is granted, prior to the completion of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. A good-faith effort will be made to obtain survey permission prior to the completion of the NEPA process.
- CUL-5 If construction will adversely affect any properties listed on, or eligible for listing on, the NRHP, mitigation will be required. Mitigation may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following measures: a) avoidance through the use of relocation of structures through the design process, realignment of the route, relocation of temporary workspace, or changes in the construction and/or operational design; b) data recovery, which may include the systematic professional excavation of an archaeological site or the preparation of photographic and/or measured drawings documenting standing structures; and c) the use of landscaping or other techniques that will minimize or eliminate effects on the historic setting or ambience of standing structures.
- CUL-6 Avoidance areas will be flagged prior to construction activities.
- CUL-7 To minimize unauthorized collecting of archaeological material or vandalism to known archaeological sites, all workers will attend mandatory training on the significance of cultural resources and the relevant federal regulations intended to protect them.

- CUL-8 If remains are discovered, construction will be halted and the coroner will be notified. If human remains of Native American origin are discovered, or if associated grave goods, or objects of cultural patrimony are discovered on lands managed by a federal agency, the provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act will be followed.
- CUL-9 If fossil materials are discovered during Project construction, all surface-disturbing activities in the vicinity of the find will cease until notification to proceed is given by the authorized officer. The site will be protected to reduce the risk of damage to fossils and context. Appropriate measures to mitigate adverse effects to significant paleontological resources will be determined by the authorized officer.

**ATTACHMENT E
BLASTING**

Blasting

This attachment outlines the procedures and safety measures to be used if blasting activities are required during construction. The Companies will prepare a site-specific Blasting Plan prior to construction that incorporates these measures and demonstrates how and where they will be applied in the field.

- BLA-1 The Blasting Plan will identify blasting procedures including safety, use, storage, and transportation of explosives that will be employed where blasting is needed, and will specify the locations of needed blasting.
- BLA-2 All blasting will be performed by registered licensed blasters who will be required to secure all necessary permits and comply with regulatory requirements in connection with the transportation, storage, and use of explosives, and blast vibration limits for nearby structures, utilities, wildlife, and fish (where blasting is conducted in waterbodies).
- BLA-3 Appropriate flags, barricades, and warning signals will be used to ensure safety during blasting operations. Blast mats will be used when needed to prevent damage and injury from fly rock.
- BLA-4 Blasting in the vicinity of pipelines will be coordinated with the pipeline operator, and will follow operator-specific procedures, as necessary.
- BLA-5 Damages that result from blasting will be repaired or the owner fairly compensated.