



Newsletter

GATEWAY WEST Transmission Line Project

Issue 3 – January 2011

Release of the draft environmental impact statement delayed by the Bureau of Land Management

It is coming soon, so watch for the announcement. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to release the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) during the first quarter of 2011. The document was originally scheduled to be released in the summer of 2010 but was delayed by the BLM to ensure adequate time to process a higher-than-expected volume of comments received as part of their internal review process. The BLM also is clarifying management objectives related to sage grouse, visual and other public resources.

Following the release of the draft EIS, there will be a 90-day comment period and the BLM will host a series of public meetings to gather comments. A notice from the BLM will be sent to everyone on the mailing list, including landowners, once the draft EIS is released and meeting dates have been scheduled. You can visit the BLM's website for updated EIS information or to submit comments at www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west. The companies will also announce updates on our project website, www.gatewaywestproject.com and provide other forms of notification to you when the draft EIS is released.

The Gateway West Transmission Line Project proposes to build approximately 1,150 miles of new transmission lines across southern Idaho and southern Wyoming. This project is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as it will cross federally-managed public lands. Under NEPA, the BLM is the lead agency responsible for preparing the draft EIS and conducting the environmental review.

Snapshot

- The BLM plans to release the draft EIS during the first quarter of 2011.
- A 90-day comment period and a series of public meetings will follow the BLM's release of the draft EIS.
- We continue to provide the latest project information, maps and answers to frequently asked questions on the project website.



Gateway West
Transmission Line Project
Newsletter

Inside you'll find:

- Update on timing of release of draft EIS
- Website facts
- Project route map

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GATEWAY WEST Transmission Line Project

What's ahead?

- The BLM plans to release the draft EIS during the first quarter of 2011.
- A 90-day comment period and public meetings will follow the BLM's release of the draft EIS.
- We continue to provide the latest project information, maps and answers to frequently asked questions on the project website.



The Gateway West Transmission Line Project is a joint project between Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power to build, operate and maintain approximately 1,150 miles of new transmission lines across southern Wyoming and southern Idaho.

Idaho Power | 888-757-6957
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Rocky Mountain Power | 801-220-4221
ConstructionProjects@pacifiCorp.com

www.gatewaywestproject.com



Project website

The project website is one way the companies continue to provide information to landowners, elected officials and other interested stakeholders. For all the latest information, visit www.gatewaywestproject.com. Here are a few interesting facts about the website:

- The project website has been visited more than 21,800 times.
- Total page views on the website are just over 123,100.
- On average, visitors spend five minutes and 15 seconds on the website.

Each month, the most popular and frequently visited pages include the home page and the maps pages. On the maps page, you can search for parcels within the study corridor by owner name or parcel number. There also are route, segment and constraint maps to explore. The companies' website links to the BLM's interactive map, which provides an overview of the project and allows you to narrow your search to a particular geographic area within the project.

While visiting the website, be sure to visit the other informative pages, including:

- **Construction** - Did you know? The tower structures will be lifted onto their foundations using a large crane specifically designed for tower construction. In some locations, it will be necessary to set structures using a helicopter. To find out more information about construction and to view a construction sequencing video, visit the construction page www.gatewaywestproject.com/construction.aspx.
- **Agriculture** - Agricultural activities are important economically and historically in many parts of the project area. Utilities generally try to avoid agricultural operations when feasible, but in some cases a line may be routed through such an area. To the maximum extent possible, we will work with farmers and landowners on tower placement and height, as well as locations for access roads. Visit the website to view a video illustrating how transmission lines and agriculture co-exist in many locations, www.gatewaywestproject.com/agriculture.aspx.
- **FAQ's** - Do you have a question about the project? See if it's answered in our frequently asked questions section, www.gatewaywestproject.com/faqs.aspx. If your question is not answered, send it to us and we'll respond directly to you. See our contact information on the next page.

Routes to be analyzed in the draft EIS

In January 2010, the BLM announced the proposed and alternate routes that will be analyzed in the draft EIS for each of the 10 proposed segments of Gateway West. The BLM also is studying other routes proposed by cooperating agencies which may be included in the draft EIS. For details on each route and updates on any BLM decisions, visit the interactive route map at www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west/.



Proposed Project Timeline

* Dates for segments between the Populus and Hemingway substations are to be determined.
 ** Line segments will be in-service at different times.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
NEPA Process													
BLM Right of Way Grants													
Right of Way Acquisition*													
Permitting*													
Engineering*													
Construction													
In Service**													

What else is happening?

Field work and cultural surveys continue to be conducted on private lands, with permission of the landowners, to gather information about the landscape, soil conditions and to determine where there are sensitive areas to avoid.

In September 2010, the BLM approved a right of way grant allowing geotechnical studies to be conducted on BLM-managed lands in Wyoming and Idaho. The 2010 right of way grant limits the studies to areas east of the Populus Substation. These studies are scheduled to be completed in 2011. Additional right of way grants will need to be obtained from the BLM to conduct studies on other public lands west of the Populus Substation. For more information please visit the BLM website: www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west.

Stay connected

If you have a question or want to share your thoughts about the project, you can provide comments via the project website at www.gatewaywestproject.com/contact_us.aspx or contact us as indicated below.

For Idaho Power customers
 Call 888-757-6957
 E-mail gatewaywest@idahopower.com

For Rocky Mountain Power customers
 Call 801-220-4221
 E-mail ConstructionProjects@pacificorp.com

Get your friends and family interested in the project by adding them to the mailing list at www.gatewaywestproject.com/mailling_list.aspx.

