



## Department of Energy

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TRANSMISSION SERVICES

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In reply refer to: TPP/DITT-2

Paul Arnold, Vice President  
ColumbiaGrid  
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Portland, OR 97220

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Transmission Services (TS) would like to request ColumbiaGrid (CG) initiate the WECC Regional Planning Project Review Process for interested parties in the proposed West of McNary Generation Integration Project (WOMGIP). The proposed project is composed of two pieces which include constructing a 79 mile, 500 kV line from McNary Substation to John Day Substation and a 29 mile, 500 kV line from Big Eddy Substation to a new station along the Wautoma-Ostrander 500 kV line. The combination of both pieces is expected to provide approximately 1650MW increase in Total Transfer Capability (TTC) across the West of McNary (WOM) path, 1400MW across the West of Slatt (WOS) path, and 975MW of across the West of John Day (WOJ) path. The proposed in-service date for the McNary-John Day 500 kV line is approximately three years from the Record of Decision and an additional two years for the Big Eddy-Station Z 500 kV line.

In 2001, BPA TS received a number of integration requests for new natural gas generation projects around the lower Snake River and McNary areas. Previous studies showed that additional transmission capability would be needed across the WOM/WOS paths in order to provide firm transmission service for the proposed generation. The WOM path is an internally monitored path in the BPA system located in eastern Oregon near McNary dam on the Columbia River near the town of Umatilla, Oregon. The WOS path is also an internally monitored path in the BPA system located in eastern Oregon south of the town of Arlington, Oregon and is somewhat in series with WOM path. The WOJ path is located in eastern Oregon west of the John Day Dam. The WOJ is an east to west path that feeds power directly into the Pacific Direct Current Intertie (PDCI) as well as the Portland load area and is in series with both the WOM/WOS paths. At that time, BPA TS proposed building the McNary-John Day 500 kV line and reinforce west of John Day by upgrading the existing John Day-Big Eddy 500 kV lines to meet these requests. However, some of the proposed generation did not materialize causing these projects to be delayed. Presently, a large amount of wind generation is being proposed west of McNary Substation closer to Slatt and John Day Substations. In response to this, the need to increase transmission capability across these paths has rematerialized. These projects will accommodate firm transmission service for proposed generation projects and increase system reliability to the Portland load area.

If you need additional information to formulate the request letter to the WECC Planning Coordination Committee (PCC) and the Technical Studies Subcommittee (TSS) for initiation of the Regional Planning Project Review Process, please feel free to contact me at 360-418-8429 or [krkohne@bpa.gov](mailto:krkohne@bpa.gov).

Sincerely,

/S/ KYLE R. KOHNE

Kyle R. Kohne  
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