

Proposed Participation in Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project

BPA Response to Customer Comments

Posted January 18, 2012

Staff Response to Comments

Proposed Participation in Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Project

January 12, 2012

All comments may be found online using the following link:

<http://www.bpa.gov/applications/publiccomments/CommentList.aspx?ID=147>.

BPA thanks all parties that submitted comments on this issue. Please find below a list of all comments received, as well as responses to the specific issues raised by each commenter, if any.

B2H11 0001 – Rolstad/Avista

In response to the suggestion from Avista that BPA make use of existing available transmission between the Pacific Northwest and the Idaho Power transmission system, participation in the Boardman to Hemingway transmission project is currently being contemplated as a means of serving customers in SE Idaho. Purchasing available transmission capacity to the edge of Idaho Power's transmission system would not allow the agency to obtain transmission across other multiple constrained paths that are necessary to serve the loads in SE Idaho. Notable among these constraints is a limitation on eastbound transfers of energy in the spring and summer months across the Brownlee East constraint, internal to the Idaho Power transmission system. BPA staff has confirmed that sufficient firm transmission is not currently available across constrained paths that are necessary to serve the loads in SE Idaho. The proposed Boardman to Hemingway transmission line would effectively relieve these constraints and allow BPA to transfer energy east-bound all year round.

B2H11 0002 – Eimers/Idaho County Light and Power

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0003 – Prairie/Idaho Falls Power

Idaho Falls Power expressed concern that BPA monies be spent in a prudent manner to address the needs of BPA and not Idaho Power and PacifiCorp. BPA believes that its \$7.2 contribution towards the permitting costs of the Boardman to Hemingway transmission project is a prudent use of funds to address the load service needs of BPA. By participating with other parties to jointly bear the costs of permitting a major transmission project that would help serve SE Idaho loads, BPA is sharing the inherent risk and significant costs that accompanies a project of this magnitude.

BPA looks forward to working with Idaho Falls staff to address potential treatment of non-federal energy mentioned in the comment over the coming fiscal year and beyond as BPA moves towards certainty on a post-2016 service arrangement for SE Idaho.

B2H11 0004 – Saven/Northwest Requirements Utilities
Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

BPA looks forward to continuing discussions about how best to serve SE Idaho, including the Strategic Capital Discussions and how possible funding for a transmission solution for SE Idaho load service might best be planned for and financed.

B2H11 0005 – Elg/United Electric Co-op Inc

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0006 – Scott/PNGC Power

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

BPA looks forward to continuing conversations about transmission planning regarding this project and the existing rights of BPA's customers in SE Idaho.

B2H11 0007 – Case/Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0008 – Dizes/Salmon River Electric Cooperative

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0009 – Hart/Idaho Consumer-Owned Utilities Association

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0010 – Baker/Public Power Council

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

B2H11 0011 – Lindsay/Renewable Northwest Project

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.

BPA will consider how best to gauge additional and varied capacity allocations in the proposed line to best meet the needs of both NT and PTP customers as those

needs are known and quantified. To this end, the parties added language to the Joint Funding Agreement in Section 3.3(a)(iii) to explicitly describe the possible re-negotiation of the capacity percentages in Exhibit D.

B2H11 0012 – Burton/Fall River Rural Electric Coop.

Comment supportive of signing both agreements.