What’s ahead?

• The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans to release the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) later this year.
• A 90-day comment period will follow the release of the draft EIS, including public meetings throughout the project area. Please visit the BLM’s website at www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west for specific meeting dates and locations.
• Continue to visit our project website at www.gatewaywestproject.com for the latest information on upcoming meetings, project maps and more.
• The BLM determined reasonable routes (proposed and alternates) to fully analyze in the draft EIS (see inside for more information).
• A 90-day public comment period will follow the BLM’s release of the draft EIS later this year.
• We continue to engage landowners, elected officials and other stakeholders throughout the project area through briefings and website updates.

Overview

The Gateway West Transmission Line Project proposes to build approximately 1,150 miles of new transmission line 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 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the lead federal agency responsible for the environmental review of the Gateway West project and is currently preparing the draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

Milestones

The Gateway West project will soon reach an important milestone with the release of the draft EIS. The graphic below illustrates some of the major milestones and activities for both the NEPA process and the companies’ outreach activities.
Stay involved

Participate in the upcoming draft EIS comment period
The BLM plans to release the draft EIS for Gateway West later this year. The BLM will host public hearings and a 90-day comment period to gather feedback on the draft EIS. Please look for notices from the BLM of specific meeting dates and visit the BLM’s website for updated EIS information or submit comments at www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west.

Get the latest information on the Web
Please visit our project website at www.gatewaywestproject.com for the latest information on upcoming meetings, answers to commonly asked questions, project maps and more.

Outreach update

Public comment period opens later this year
A key milestone in the NEPA process is the release of the draft EIS. As the federal agency responsible for the NEPA process on Gateway West, the BLM plans to release the draft EIS later this year. A 90-day public comment period will follow, including public hearings throughout the project area.

For more information on the NEPA process and future draft EIS notifications, please visit the BLM’s website at http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west/.

Outreach by the numbers
We are committed to engaging landowners and stakeholders and we encourage your continued involvement. We’ve hosted and participated in many formal and informal project-related meetings, gathered your comments and kept in touch. For example the following is a list of some of the things we’ve done since the project began in 2008.

- Nearly 40 meetings were hosted by our companies since December 2008.
- Nearly 2,000 people attended the company-sponsored meetings.
- We participated in more than 150 formal and informal meetings at the request of landowners and other interested parties.
- Approximately 1,350 comments have been received by our companies since the start of the project.
- More than 5,400 people received our July 2009 newsletter.
- Approximately 9,000 addresses and e-mail addresses are now on our project mailing list, after new alternate routes were added in fall 2009.
- The project website logged more than 17,850 visits, totaling nearly 104,900 page views.

Did you know?

- The Gateway West transmission line will provide electricity to meet the growing needs of customers and increase the reliability of the region’s electrical system.
- NEPA requires federal agencies to evaluate environmental impacts of proposed actions and reasonable alternatives on federally-managed land.
- All comments received by the companies will be submitted to the BLM to be included in the draft EIS comment analysis.
- The BLM will hold a 90-day public comment period, including public hearings, after publishing the draft EIS later this year.

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 on Gateway West. For details on each route, visit the interactive route map on the Web at http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west/.

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