

Groups and Individuals

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: randy kram [rlruger44@uswest.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 08, 2001 5:13 AM
To: comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Powelines through the watershed

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-338
RECEIPT DATE: JUL 09 2001

338-001

I believe that the current proposal to run a new line through the watershed east of Maple Valley is the best choice. It impacts the smallest number of homes and will have little impact on the surrounding area. With the lines in the watershed there will also be greater control over the construction and future maintenance. Also, less chance of vandalism due to the fact its in a restricted area. A very good choice to help us with our energy needs.

Thank You
Randal Kram
Covington, WA

338-001 Comment noted.

Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line

Telephone comment by Ginny Kuehn
7/9/01

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-339
RECEIPT DATE: JUL 09 2001

Greg Meeks
360-886-7334

339-001 Additional information has been added to the SDEIS to address this comment. Please see Chapter 1. The purpose of the project is to meet the level of reliability that will reasonably insure that all customers in the region have electrical power available when it is needed.

339-001

Greg called regarding the Cedar River Watershed. His comment was really a bad idea. A lot of money. He would like a call back to explain the reasoning of this project.

Lou Driessen called Greg Meeks on 7/9/01. He does not want the project. He is against growth and thinks this project would promote growth. He also does not want this project to affect wildlife, including E&M field impacts. He knows that this project would only benefit California and was not concerned about local needs for they have not had a black/brown out. He was all in favor of the No Action Alternative.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Konigsmark, Kenneth D [Kenneth.Konigsmark@PSSBoeing.com]
 Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2001 3:49 PM
 To: 'comment@bpa.gov'
 Subject: Kangley-Echo Lake Expansion DEIS comments

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
RECEIPT DATE: JUL 12 2001

Dear Mr. Driessen,

While I can't possibly adequately review all 348 pages of the DEIS, I do wish to comment on what I did read and what I know of the project's intentions.

These comments are submitted as an individual, not representing any organization, and as a resident living nearby in the Preston area. I do work for the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and am, thus, very familiar with the area, land use issues, and all of the intense efforts that have gone into helping conserve and protect the project area from inappropriate development and impacts.

340-001 I'm concerned immediately when I read the project "purposes" on p. 18. These reflect minimizing any impacts to humans, but do not reflect this same sentiment for impacts to the environment. While it states "protect environmental quality," what does this mean, and how can this possibly be done with a project that would create a new 150', permanently cleared corridor through what is now valuable forestland? I believe one of your purposes should clearly state: "Minimize all environmental impacts through careful planning and implementation and fully mitigate the impacts of the new corridor."

340-002 What do I mean by "mitigate?" It's incumbent on BPA to mitigate the permanent loss of forestland that will occur as a result of your proposed project. 150' x 9 miles = 164 acres of permanently lost forestland through an area that has gone to extensive lengths specifically to preserve and protect long-term forests. In an era of salmon listings, new measures being taken to protect native vegetative cover, and heightened sensitivity to the importance of forests for wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity, recreation, scenic values, air quality and carbon sequestration, and more, it is incumbent on BPA to permanently replace the 164 acres of forest lost to clearing and "development" with an offsetting minimum of 164 acres elsewhere. This should be factored into the project costs and be accomplished via a conservation easement or fee acquisition.

340-003 While I'm pleased none of the other alternatives are proposed because of their broader environmental impacts, I'm still not satisfied with the proposal selected. Why is a parallel line necessary? Why can't the new line be added to the existing towers? The environmental "savings" would be huge if this were done, and I suspect the financial savings would be significant as well. I'm certain there are ways to temporarily keep power flowing in the existing line even while attaching a new line to the towers. If the issue is redundancy, it really wouldn't matter if the line were parallel to the existing line or on the same towers; an incident would likely affect them the same way in either case. I strongly urge you to not build a parallel line but to instead locate the new line on existing towers. Not only does this save 164 acres of forest and prevent a widened corridor, it also precludes the costly need for BPA to acquire easements, install towers, etc.

340-004 "Danger trees" is another issue of concern. In the "old days" this might have been the way things were done, but cutting down anything that MIGHT have a future impact is not acceptable today. Just as the Watershed is not allowing this approach, BPA must take a similar approach along the entire 9-mile length. An open approach to cutting all danger trees is not acceptable and this must be changed in your approach so that the "stable tree" approach is utilized everywhere.

340-005 I must mention that this portion of the I-90 corridor is a National Scenic Byway that merits special scenic and visual impact concern. Once the line crosses to the north face of Taylor Mountain it is within the viewscape of I-90 travelers, who now enjoy a forested basin view. A widened powerline corridor will likely detract from this, which presents another reason for locating the line on existing towers.

340-006 NEPA requires BPA to "protect, restore, and enhance the environment." While I didn't read the entire DEIS, I didn't see any measures that accomplish this goal. What I did see was an intent to permanently clear a 9-mile, 150' wide corridor and erect 40 towers plus a new line. Thus, I again emphasize that BPA must develop an appropriate mitigation proposal that offsets the environmental damage occurring via this loss of forestland.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Ken Konigsmark
 (425) 957-5094
 FAX: (425) 957-5048

(NOTICE: Contents of this message should not be construed as representing any official position of either the Boeing Company or the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust unless specifically stated as such)

340-001 Our reference to the "human environment" includes both the social environment as well as the natural environment, and our EIS looks at impacts to both. We do not put one above the other, but analyze all impacts in our environmental documents. With respect to what we mean by the project purpose "Maintain environmental quality," we mean that it is our intention to build, operate and maintain the proposed transmission facilities in an environmentally-responsible manner, should BPA make a decision to build the project.

340-002 Your comment regarding mitigation is noted and will be addressed in the appropriate detail in the Mitigation Action Plan to be subsequently prepared for this project, and in association with permitting discussions with the King County Department of Development and Environmental Services.

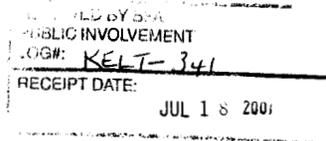
BPA has purchased 350 acres in the Raging River Basin immediately adjacent to the Cedar River Watershed. One hundred ten acres would be turned over to the city of Seattle with the remaining acreage sold with a conservation easement or deed restriction such that no commercial or residential construction could take place. BPA may also purchase or fund the purchase of other properties that could be used for compensatory mitigation. Portions that will not be turned over to the city of Seattle would be sold with a conservation easement or deed restriction such that no commercial or residential construction could take place. These properties would more than offset any impacts the project may cause to the Cedar River Watershed and its HCP and impacts to wetlands inside and outside the watershed.

In addition to this compensatory mitigation measure, BPA has designed mitigation measures into the proposed project. It has avoided impacts to jurisdictional wetlands by avoiding filling any wetlands, using a small footprint for tower footings to minimize ground disturbance, planting low-growing vegetation in forested wetlands that would be changed to shrub-scrub wetlands and planting low-growing vegetation on other disturbed ground to rehabilitate it, requiring helicopter/sky crane construction be used to minimize new road construction, and using existing access roads to the extent possible.

With respect to the proposed conversion of forested wetlands to scrub/shrub wetlands, BPA would only use hand clearing techniques to remove tall-growing woody vegetation, and either leave all vegetation taken in the wetland areas or would remove vegetation by use of helicopter/sky crane. Additionally, BPA would provide the appropriate level of compensatory mitigation as recommended by King County for altering these wetlands.

- 340-003 See Section 2.3.8 of the SDEIS.
- 340-004 Danger trees would be identified using a combination of information – topography, location and swing of the conductor, wind direction, lean, evidence of high water table, past tree failures, overall health of the tree, etc. See Section 2.1.1.4 of the SDEIS.
- 340-005 The proposed line would not cross the north face of the Taylor Mountain, and would not be visible to travelers on I-90. The line would terminate at Echo Lake Substation, more that a mile south of I-90.
- 340-006 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

Philip L. Howard
Post Office Box 440
Hobart, WA 98025-0440



July 15, 2001

Mr. Gene Lynard (KECN-4)
Project Environmental Lead
Bonneville Power Administration
Post Office Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Mr. Lynard:

Re: Kangley – Echo Lake Transmission Line Project
Specifically impact on the Gray Wolf, Black Bear, Cougar

Thank you for the copy of the Kangley – Echo Lake Transmission Line Project environmental impact study. I found the information quite enlightening and very thorough and informative.

341-001

However, as late as July 4, 2001 I have personally observed a Gray Wolf not more than 200 yards east of the present transmission lines where they cross Kerriston Road – whereas you report indicated 'No known to occur in the CRW' and 'Not expected to occur in the project area'. I would have to tell you that where I saw the wolf was pretty damn close to your project area.

341-002

Further, I did not see any listing of the Black Bear or Cougar, which also do occur within all the areas listed for your project. What information has been established for these two species?

341-003

Aside from these three species of animals I was very pleased with the extensive work done by Bonneville Power Administration, et al.

Cordially,


Philip L. Howard

Cc: Bonneville Power Administration file

341-001 Section 3.3.2 and Table 2 of the Wildlife Technical Report (Appendix B) were revised to indicate that wolves are highly mobile species and could be observed in a variety of habitats, including the project area. However, the finding that the project area does not provide suitable denning or rendezvous habitat is still accurate. BPA believes that the proposed project would have no effect on the gray wolf, a federally-listed endangered species, and the USFWS has concurred with this determination in their February 23, 2002 letter to BPA.

341-002 Section 3.3.2 of the Wildlife Technical Report (Appendix B) describes the process used to select species for inclusion in the analysis. Species included are those that are federally-listed as threatened or endangered; federal species of concern; listed by the state of Washington as threatened, endangered, sensitive, or monitor species; identified in the King County Comprehensive Plan as being of local concern; and are expected to occur on the west side of the Cascades. One additional species, the black-tailed deer, was also included as a result of comments made during public scoping for the project. Because neither black bear nor cougar fit these criteria, they were not included.

341-003 Comment noted.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: dstolsig@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, July 28, 2001 7:39 PM
To: comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Kangley-Echo Lake New Line

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: <i>KELT-342</i>
RECEIPT DATE: JUL 30 2001

Re: Online EIS Chapter 2.1.1.5 Access Roads

We would like to suggest that any access road leading to the South (Kangley) end of the project be placed in accordance with Figure 23, page 79, DEIS Kangley Site, Sand and Gravel Operation Proposed Rezone, May 1987. King County Department of Planning and Community Development. (Riverwood Land Co./Stoneway Concrete, Inc.)

To wit: In Section 27, Township 22N, Range 7E, WM, S/2 of NE/4 of SE/4 the new Tower Access Roads are shown to extend from 336th Ave SE (private road) NE along the Grand Coulee - Raver No. 1 & 2 line to a point 100' from our property line (description below), then running North along that 100' setback line to the Tacoma - Grand Coulee Line easement. Using this route, access to the Number 1 tower of the Kangley - Echo Lake Line could be achieved by extending that road Easterly along the North side of our property directly to the new tower and easement, thereby negating crossing our pastures with a new road and achieving the installation of the roads called for in the aforementioned DEIS. This new road would be level from 336th Ave SE to the new tower.

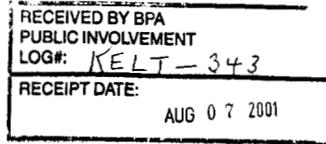
We will be unable to attend the August 1, 2001 Public Meeting at the Maple Valley Community Center, but will be happy to discuss this proposal, on site, with your planners after Aug 7, 2001.

Thank you,

Richard J. and Patricia L. Stolsig
26616 336th Ave. SE
P. O. Box 135
Ravensdale, WA 98051
SE/4 of NE/4 of SE/4, Sec 27, TWP 22 N, R 7 E, WM
(360) 886-2713
dstolsig@juno.com

342-001

342-001 The route suggested was field reviewed on two occasions. The route is not level and would require additional acquisition from private owners, and more new construction.



-----Original Message-----
From: gail vaden [mailto:xlax99_1999@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 06, 2001 4:33 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Project

Lou Driessen, Project Manager, Bonneville Power Administration

Mr. Driessen,

The BPA is proposing construction of 9 miles of new 500 kV power transmission line to be known as Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Project in King County. The powerline would cut through both the Raging River watershed and the Cedar River watershed (a primary source of Seattle's drinking water and is currently protected from logging.

If constructed, this line would involve clear-cutting a swath from 150' to 275' wide through the forest plus construction of 1.5 miles of new roads and three construction staging areas of undisclosed size.

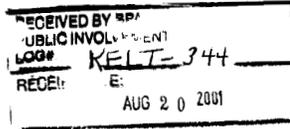
We believe the BPA should be held responsible for full mitigation for this project by replacing the habitat, including forest and wetlands, damaged or degraded by this project with equivalent habitat type and quality in the vicinity. Mitigation of damaged or degraded habitat is standard practice in other industries and the BPA should not be exempt.

Please require that the BPA fully mitigate the environmental impact of this project.

Gail and Geary Vaden

343-001

343-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.



-----Original Message-----

From: Michael & Donna Brathovde [mailto:mdbrathv@concentric.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2001 10:38 AM
To: Driessen, Lou
Cc: Murray, Senator Patty Murray; Cantwell, Senator Maria; Dunn, Jennifer; Schell, Seattle Mayor Paul Schell; Sims, Ron; Flagor, Suzanne
Subject: BPA Kangley-Echo Lake Mitigation

Michael A. and Donna L. Brathovde
29009 SE Kent-Kangley Road
P. O. Box 8
Ravensdale, Washington 98051
Phone: (425) 432-3237

Lou Driessen, Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration
P. O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Sir:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing construction of nine miles of new 500 kV power transmission line to be known as the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Project in King County, Washington. This powerline would cut through both the Raging River watershed and the

Cedar River Watershed (a primary source of the City of Seattle's drinking water and currently protected from logging).

If constructed, this line would involve clear-cutting a swath from 150' to 275' wide through the forest plus construction of 1.5 miles of new roads and three construction staging areas of undisclosed size.

We do not oppose the construction of the line but we do believe that the BPA should be held responsible for full mitigation for the environmental impact of this project by replacing the habitat, including forest and wetlands, damaged or degraded by the project with equivalent habitat type and quality in the vicinity. Mitigation of damaged or degraded habitat is standard practice in other industries and the BPA should not be exempt.

Please, require that the BPA fully mitigate the environmental impacts of this project.

Sincerely,
Michael and Donna Brathovde

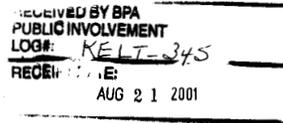
cc: Senator Patty Murray
Senator Maria Cantwell
Representative Jennifer Dunn
Seattle Mayor Paul Schell
King County Executive Ron Sims
Suzanne Flagor, Cedar River Watershed Manager

344-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

344-001

Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project

Telephone comment by Ginny Kuehn
8/21/01



Bonnie Scott
Ravensdale, WA

345-001

I am calling because I am concerned about the new Kangley-Echo Lake line that you want to put in and I think you want to put it into some of the watersheds. I am just hoping that if you do that, that it will wreck a lot of habitat for wildlife and fish. I hope that you will mitigate that and find some other good habitat that you will be willing to buy or add habitat to it to make up for the loss that you will cause. Thank you very much. Goodbye.



August 17, 2001

Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208

RE: Proposed Raging Cedar Powerline

346-001

Please do not authorize additional power lines in these watershed, before ascertaining a real need for additional capacity that cannot be met in other ways. If you determine that the additional capacity must be provided, then add additional circuits to the towers in the existing corridor. The public has recently acquired many of these forest lands for wildlife and water quality protection. Creating a new powerline and right-of-way will disrupt and fragment the forest and wildlife habitat and stream and water quality. Building new roads is even more damaging.

346-002

346-003

346-004

If in a few places you must take new forest land or damage wetlands, they must be replaced. A full 6 to 1 mitigation should be provided for the wetlands, as required by the Department of Ecology guidelines.

Thank you for your attention

Marcy Golde

345-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

346-001 Comment noted.

346-002 Please see response to Comment 340-003.

346-003 Comment noted. We understand that the City of Seattle has acquired most of the land above Landsburg Dam within the Cedar River Watershed to protect water quality and wildlife. We also understand that the City of Seattle has "negotiated a conservation plan with the secretaries of the Interior and Commerce to minimize and mitigate any impact to endangered species while conducting otherwise lawful activities." HCP's are a long-term plan authorized under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1539). (HCP, Page 1.1-3).

As a federal agency, BPA is not subject to Section 10 of the ESA, but is subject to Section 7. BPA has initiated formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and has concluded informal consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

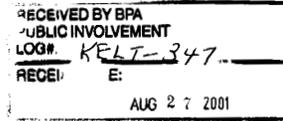
346-004 BPA tries to first avoid environmentally sensitive areas, such as wetlands, in siting its transmission facilities. Where it cannot, these areas are spanned. Where they cannot be spanned, the

impact is minimized. For the Proposed Action, BPA finds that no wetlands would need to be filled; however, approximately 14 acres of wetlands would be altered from forested wetlands to scrub/shrub wetlands.

The proposed project would change some forestland to managed grass/forb/shrub habitat, and change some forested wetlands to scrub/shrub wetlands. BPA would provide compensatory mitigation for these impacts as described in Response to Comment 340-002 above; however, such wetland mitigation would be determined by King County regulations and not the Washington State Department of Ecology. Since no wetlands would be filled as a part of the proposed action, no permit would be sought from either the Army Corps of Engineers or the Department of Ecology.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2001 12:49 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Subject: FW: Raging Cedar Powerline DEIS



Kangley - Echo Lake
-----Original Message-----
From: Jim Chapman [mailto:jchap@gte.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2001 2:31 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Raging Cedar Powerline DEIS

August 23, 2001

Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208

Dear Sir/Madam:

I have just learned that BPA intends to built nine miles of a new 500kV transmission line through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds in King County, Washington. This would include 1.5 miles of new road construction and a clearcut a swath from 150' to 285' wide through the forest, including Seattle's watershed, which is now protected from logging.

A Draft EIS on the transmission line is apparently available for comment.

347-001 | BPA needs to consider adding circuits to the towers in the existing corridor or explain why that is not possible.

347-002 | If a new and separate line is necessary, then any forest or wetlands that are damaged by it must be mitigated, i.e., replaced.

347-003 | A new EIS should be written which includes information needed to reach an informed decision, a substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation).

Sincerely,

James L. Chapman
23321 75th Ave. W.
Edmonds, WA 98026

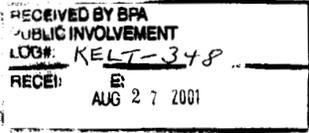
347-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

347-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

347-003 Please see response to Comments 411-006 and 394-090.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Friday, August 24, 2001 12:48 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Subject: FW: Transmission Project in King County



Kangley - Echo Lake

-----Original Message-----

From: NuklIdragr@aol.com [mailto:NuklIdragr@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, August 11, 2001 9:29 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Transmission Project in King County

Dear Lou;

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing construction of nine miles of new 500 kV power transmission line to be known as the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Project in King County, Washington. This powerline would cut through both the Raging River watershed and the Cedar River Watershed (a primary source of the City of Seattle's drinking water and currently protected from logging).

If constructed, this line would involve clear-cutting a swath from 150' to 275' wide through the forest plus construction of 1.5 miles of new roads and three construction staging areas of undisclosed size.

We believe that the BPA should be held responsible for full mitigation for this project by replacing the habitat, including forest and wetlands, damaged or degraded by this project with equivalent habitat type and quality in the vicinity. Mitigation of damaged or degraded habitat is standard practice in other industries and the BPA should not be exempt.

Please, require that the BPA fully mitigate the environmental impacts of this project.

Sincerely,

Dave & Karin Ambur

348-001

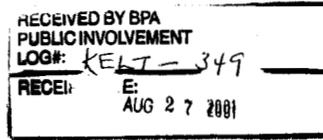
348-002

348-001 Comment noted. Please see response to Comment 340-002.

348-002 Please see response to Comment 340-002.

August 22, 2001

Lou Driessen, Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208



Re: Raging Cedar Power Line / Kangley Eco Lake Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Driessen:

The Mountaineers is one the oldest and one of the largest environmental and recreation organizations in the Northwest, with about 15,000 members. We have commented on many BPA projects over the years and numerous energy projects by various agencies. The Mountaineers was very active in supporting the City of Seattle Cedar River Watershed Project and was instrumental in passage of the Cedar River HCP.

349-001

The Mountaineers has very serious reservations about the necessity of the proposed Raging Cedar Power Line and strong objections to many features of this project. In particular, we believe that the Draft EIS did not adequately consider increased energy conservation, which could negate the need for the additional power lines. The City of Seattle has a strong history of energy conservation, and other utilities in this area also have strong conservation programs. Increased energy conservation saves the individual ratepayers utility costs and could eliminate the capital cost of this project and the environmental damage that results from this project.

349-002

Further, in the event that additional transmission lines are required, we believe that BPA should take a much harder look at placing additional lines on the existing towers. BPA asserts that new transmission lines are required because of the possibility of damage to the existing towers. However, in our judgment, that possibility is negligible. Certainly the cost of reinforcing and strengthening the existing towers in various ways would be substantially less than the cost of the proposed project.

349-003

The Draft EIS does not adequately consider the very serious environmental effects from this project. The project would require 1.5 miles of new road construction through the Cedar River Watershed and the Raging River Watershed. New roads are very likely to cause soil erosion and resulting damage to water quality and fisheries resources. Additional roads also cause fragmentation and have severe impacts on wildlife in these watersheds. Although the DEIS Summary seems to infer that the roads right of way would only require clearing for about 75 feet, in fact, cutting of trees can be as far as 200 feet from the power line (DEIS pages 2-5). Further, the roads would impact several wetlands. In light of the enormous amounts of money that the City of Seattle and many state and federal agencies are spending to protect

349-001 Conservation was studied as an alternative to the transmission line. BPA is actively involved in conservation programs as noted in the EIS, but BPA plans the transmission system on the basis of the loads supplied by its customers. BPA's customers (Seattle City Light, Snohomish County PUD, Puget Sound Energy, etc.) encourage conservation and have a closer relationship to end users of electricity. At the same time, local utilities have requested transmission service from BPA sufficient to serve their expected load. BPA is obliged to maintain and construct a system that can meet those contracted needs. Conservation cannot provide the level of reliability and capacity needed. See Section 2.2.9 and Appendix J of the SDEIS.

349-002 Please see Section 2.3.8 of the SDEIS.

349-003 The proposed transmission line requires access to each tower site for the purposes of construction, maintenance and continuous operation of the line. BPA has selected the Proposed Action as its preferred alternative, in part, due to its minimal impact on the environment of all of the action alternatives under consideration. Since the Proposed Action would parallel an existing BPA 500-kV line, BPA would take advantage of an existing access road system. Because an existing access road system is already in place, BPA would need to build about 2.9 miles of additional access/spur roads to construct, operate and maintain the proposed transmission line.

Lynn Driessen, Project Manager
Page Two

wetlands and salmon habitat, this additional road construction is unwise as well as unnecessary.

349-004 Further, the DEIS does not adequately consider BPA's duty to mitigate if the project proceeds with the Preferred Alternative. Lowland forests are a critical ecological element in the Western Cascades. The Cedar River Watershed contains an unusually large block of old growth. It also contains second growth that now has the possibility of maturing into old growth as a result of the Cedar River HCP. This project, with a right of way up to 200 feet from the power line, would cause serious fragmentation through this forest ecosystem. Mitigation should include replacement habitat, including forests and wetlands, which should be in close proximity to the area that is disturbed. To the extent that local areas are not used for mitigation, the area of mitigation should be increased as the mitigation moves in distance. If mitigation is employed, the BPA should look at several close by areas in Green River, Raging River, near Selleck, and upper Rock Creek Valley.

349-005 As a further critical mitigation factor, the BPA should commit itself not to use herbicides in the Raging River Watershed, which contains important salmon runs.

We look forward to seeing these concerns addressed in the final EIS.

Sincerely,

The Mountaineers

Edward M. Henderson, Jr.
President

EMH/kle

349-004 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

349-005 BPA has prepared a programmatic EIS for its vegetation management program associated with transmission lines, roads, and related facilities. The EIS identifies appropriate measures to protect the environment while minimizing danger tree risks and maintaining the ROW within safe, reliable conditions. These guidelines provide for protecting water resources by using herbicide buffer zones. BPA would comply with the standards and guidelines established in this EIS and the Record of Decision for vegetation management (BPA 2000). See Appendix K of the SDEIS for more information. See also response to Comment 394-193. BPA would discuss the use of herbicides with individual landowners. Herbicides would not be used in the Raging River Watershed if landowners object.

RECEIVED BY BPA
 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
 LOG#: KELT-350
 RECEIVED: E: AUG 29 2001

-----Original Message-----

From: Phil Sheffer [mailto:shefferp@home.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2001 11:34 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: New Power lines

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my concern about plans to build new power lines in the Cedar and Raging River Watersheds. These areas are protected for many reasons and water quality is just one of them. There are crucial wildlife habitats within these areas that must not be disturbed! The public has spoken on this issue in the past and our opinions have not changed. I urge you to add circuits to the existing towers rather than cutting down portions of the protected forests to build new towers. The construction of additional roads is a big step backwards in our work to restore the watershed to it's optimum ecological efficiency. If there are forests and wetlands that are destroyed, disturbed or damaged, they must be replaced! I would also ask for a new EIS that includes a substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation). Thank you for your time, I hope to hear of a more ecologically sensitive alternative plan.

Sincerely,

Philip Sheffer
 3033 NE 90Th St
 Seattle, WA 98115
 shefferp@home.com

350-001 |

350-002 |

350-003 |

350-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

350-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

350-003 Comment noted. Please see response to Comments 411-006, 349-001, and 394-090.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 1:30 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Please don't run power lines through watersheds!

RECEIVED BY BPA
 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
 LOG#: KELT-351
 RECEIVED: E: AUG 29 2001

It said nothing other than the heading.

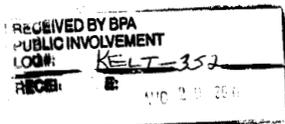
Lou

-----Original Message-----

From: Clark Nicholson [mailto:clarkn@windows.microsoft.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 1:09 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: Please don't run power lines through watersheds!

351-001 |

351-001 Comment noted.



-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Champlin [mailto:boobooc2000@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 11:21 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Power lines in the Cedar River Watershed

Dear Mr. Driessen:

I received some alarming news this morning. I understand the Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to clearcut a large swath of low elevation forest in the Cedar River Watershed, which provides water for the City of Seattle, which is protected forest, and which is home to several streams and creeks in which several threatened stocks of salmon live.

352-001

I cannot be more clear: There is absolutely no reason to be building new power lines in this watershed. There are existing towers to which lines can be added. The loss of lowland forest in the State of Washington has been enormous, and the threat of extinction for several species of salmon, as well as some birds and mammals, is very real.

352-002

I strongly suggest you rethink this idea. Just because we now have a President who wholeheartedly supports the elimination of environmental regulations and concerns does not make it right. The City of Seattle has protected this watershed for a number of reasons. The majority of the citizens of King County support this protection. And as a reminder, the

352-003

President I speak of was not elected by the majority of voters. He does not have a mandate to ignore the will of the majority of citizens.

352-004

If the BPA is doing this because of what some are calling an "energy crisis", then it has been sold down the river, or indeed, it is selling the citizens of this state and BPA's own customers down the river. The "energy crisis" so often invoked by Bush and Cheney is simply a fabrication to cover the fraud perpetrated upon the energy users of this country by the suppliers of electricity, all in the name of deregulation.

352-005

Again, let me state this clearly: You must not clearcut in our watershed. I intend to express my concerns to my congressional delegation as well.

Sincerely yours,
Richard P. Champlin
22831 30th Ave. S, #204
Des Moines, Washington 98198
206-769-5097

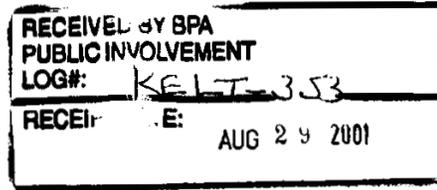
352-001 Please see the response to Comment 339-001.

352-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

352-003 Comment noted.

352-004 Comment noted.

352-005 Not all trees in the ROW would be removed. Transmission towers are typically sited on higher ground, and they generally span drainages and associated riparian areas. Siting towers in this manner would increase the likelihood that the conductors may be above some riparian areas and may require only limited removal of vegetation. BPA would leave/protect low-growing vegetation where possible.



-----Original Message-----

From: Cole Thompson [mailto:wct25@yahoo.com]
 Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 4:39 PM
 To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
 Subject: power line development

Hello--

353-001

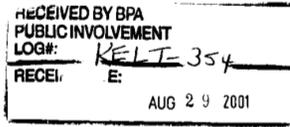
Just a quick note. Dont cut down any trees in our watersheds damn it!! I understand the need to create new power lines in a rapidly developing region- but for salmons sake, figure out a solution to cutting wide swaths through our forests. i am an avid hiker, and those cuts are saddening and i beleive unnecessary- so figure an alternative, you have the technology and the bubget. Seattle enjoys a solid source of freshwater, why take away from this vital resource.

353-002

Sincerely,
 A Concerned citizen, Seattle Resident energy user,
 and lover of the roadless wilds.

353-001 Please see response to Comment 352-005.

353-002 Comment noted. If BPA makes a decision to build the proposed project, it would do so in an environmentally-responsible manner. BPA would obtain all applicable environmental permits from the appropriate land management agencies and other federal agencies, such as the USFWS, before initiating construction activities.



-----Original Message-----
From: Dorothy Sager [mailto:dozsager@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 7:07 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject:

Attention: Mr. Lou Driessen, Project Manager

354-001

I understand providing power to Northwest users is important. I am opposed to cutting any forest to do so. I want you to focus on adding additional circuits to towers in the existing corridor instead of clearing more forest area.

354-002

Whatever the outcome of this project, I expect that any forest or wetlands that are damaged will be replaced. This is also a citizens request for a new EIS with needed information, a

354-003

substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation).

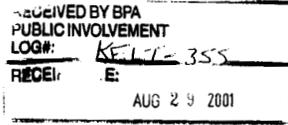
Submit comments to (before Sept. 4)

Dorothy Sager

354-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

354-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-002. BPA has purchased lands adjacent to the Cedar River Watershed as compensatory mitigation for the forestland that would be taken out of production within the Cedar River Watershed. These lands could also be used as mitigation for the wetlands that would be impacted as a result of the proposed project.

354-003 Please see responses to Comments 349-001 and 350-003.



355-001 Please see responses to Comments 340-003 and 352-005.

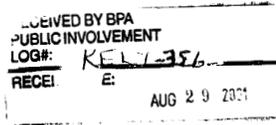
-----Original Message-----

From: Justin Birk [mailto:justinbirk@home.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 4:20 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: new lines

355-001

I recently was informed that you are planning to put new transmission lines through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds, the same watersheds that supply Seattle with our drinking water. As I understand it, this area is protected from logging, and rightfully so. Not only would this compromise our water source, it would also place a large scar in our precious forest land. Haven't we seen enough clear-cutting from Weyerhaeuser? I do not approve of this course of action from my public utility. Please put additional lines on existing towers. Please don't destroy our forests.

Justin Birk
 Green Lake



-----Original Message-----

From: Erica Kay [mailto:bf283@scn.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 8:07 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: Comments regarding proposed logging in Cedar River Watershed to make way for power lines

Dear Lou Driessen, Project Manager,

It has come to my attention that a plan by the BPA to expand power lines would require logging and road building in the Cedar River Watershed (as well as nearby forests). 'Fraid not!

356-001

My basic comment is simple. This violates the HCP for this area which disallow any logging of this type in the watershed. As I understand the HCP to which the city of Seattle is accountable, this cannot even be considered in this protected area. As a citizen of Seattle, I demand that this project drop this idea immediately and consider legally (and ecologically) viable alternatives. No logging is legal in this watershed and the goals of the HCP are to remove roads not build new ones.

356-002

Although I don't fully understand the repercussions of adding additional circuits to the existing towers in that corridor, I suspect I could support that alternative, assuming any forest or wetland damage is minimized and mitigated.

356-003

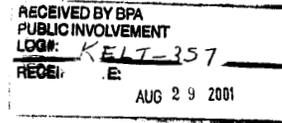
A new EIS that looks at additional alternatives and examines cumulative effects is needed.

Erica Kay
PO Box 95113
Seattle WA 98145
bf283@scn.org

356-001 The *Final Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Issuance of Permit to Allow Incidental Take of Threatened and Endangered Species (HCP)*, does not "disallow logging of this type in the Watershed," as the commenter states. On the contrary, the HCP states "Removal of trees, down or standing, will be allowed along the existing or new rights-of-way, including roads, to protect public safety and facilities and to allow access. Trees removed for such reasons may be sold by the City, as long as any net revenues are used to offset costs of the HCP or watershed management."

356-002 Comment noted. Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

356-003 Comment noted. Please see responses to Comments 349-001 and 350-003.



-----Original Message-----
From: Paul Hezel [mailto:phezel@enviroissues.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2001 8:46 PM
To: 'lcdriessen@bpa.gov'; 'coment@bpa.gov'
Cc: Paul Hezel
Subject: Raging Cedar Powerline project

Dear Lou -

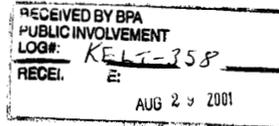
357-001 Please include this letter with comments that do NOT support continuing with the Cedar River Watershed powerline project as stated in the DEIS. New powerlines should be added to the existing transmission towers, not along new towers through the watershed. Too much work went into protecting the Cedar River Watershed to have it hacked again by a linear project. It would do much to destroy the contiguous block of old growth habitat that exists there currently.

357-003 Write a new EIS. Include a conservation alternative. Evaluate more seriously the cumulative effects, including that of fragmenting habitat and introduction of edge effect into old growth forest habitat, and potential habitat destruction at the river crossing.

357-005 If you find a way to go through with the project: ALL forest cut for the project should be replaced at a ration of 10:1, which may include purchase of Cascade Conservation Partnership lands at the same ratio.

Thanks.

Paul Hezel
5521 Brooklyn Ave NE
Seattle WA 98105
206-729-8429



-----Original Message-----
From: dea@u.washington.edu [mailto:dea@u.washington.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 12:24 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Bonneville Power to clearcut Seattle's source of drinking water - the Cedar River Watershed!

358-001 I do not want Boneevile Power to destroy the city's protected water shed with power lines. Destroying a natural resource like water sheds is an unsustainable prospect for human interest. Bonneville should use current cut paths from other power lines rather than mow down new ones. -David A

357-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

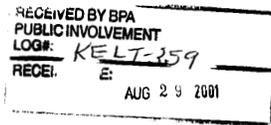
357-002 As described in Section 3.4 of the Vegetation Technical Report (Appendix C) of the EIS, the proposed transmission line ROW does not pass through old growth forest.

357-003 Comment noted. Please see response to Comments 411-006, 349-001, and 394-090.

357-004 Analysis of potential impacts from habitat fragmentation within the Cedar River Watershed was expanded in Section 4.1.1.1 of the Wildlife Technical Report (Appendix B). No old-growth forest habitat would be affected.

357-005 Comment noted. BPA has purchased land to be used as compensatory mitigation, to partially mitigate for the forestlands and wetlands that would be impacted by the proposed project. See response to Comment 340-002.

358-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.



-----Original Message-----

From: Colwell, David G [mailto:david.g.colwell@Boeing.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 7:15 AM
To: 'lcdriessen@bpa.gov'; 'coment@bpa.gov'
Subject: Raging Cedar Powerline

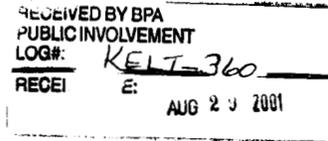
Dear Mr Driessen,

359-001

359-002

I deplore the proposed Raging Cedar Powerline because I am a resident of Seattle and don't want my watershed trashed by road building and tree cutting. Why cannot additional powerlines be hung on existing towers? You would not propose a construction of a new powerline through Mt Rainier National Park. Why do you propose construction in Seattle's protected watershed. It is clear from the DEIS that the BPA does not regard the loss of lowland forest as significant, but lowland forest is already disappearing fast enough. We don't need to lose more.

David G Colwell
Boeing SSG Facilities Services - Strategic Planning
*206-544-7457 (phone)
*206-797-4059 (pager)
*206-544-5889 (fax)
*M/C 2R-71 (mailcode)
*david.g.colwell@boeing.com (email)
C15-20 Building, South Park, Seattle, WA (location)



-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Ballard [mailto:pballard@oz.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 8:26 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: Bonneville Power Plan to Clearcut in the Cedar River Watershed!

Lou Driessen, Project Manager

360-001

360-002

360-003

360-004

Regarding the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) plan to build nine miles of new 500 kilovolt line through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds. I support, instead, adding additional circuits to towers in the existing corridor. If there is any cutting, I insist that any forest or wetlands that are damaged be replaced. There are apparently discrepancies, including the amount of forest to be cut especially around old growth. I would ask for a new EIS with needed information, a substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives. This should of course include conservation.

Sincerely,

Paul Ballard
416 NW 92nd
Seattle, WA 98117
206 782 0924

359-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

359-002 Comment noted.

360-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

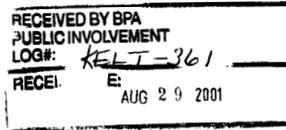
360-002 See response to Comment 357-004.

360-003 The Proposed Action would not require cutting any old growth on the Cedar River Watershed, or anywhere within the project area.

360-004 Comment noted. See response to Comment 357-003.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 3:29 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: NINE MILES OF NEW TRANSMISSION LINES



-----Original Message-----

From: Stacey Glenewinkel [mailto:STACEY32@worldshare.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 11:07 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: NINE MILES OF NEW TRANSMISSION LINES

361-001 | I am deeply disturbed about your plans to build nine miles of new 500kilovolt line through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds and your 1.5 miles of new road construction. Why do you think it's ok to clearcut a swath from 150' to 285' wide through the forest, including Seattle's watershed, which is currently protected from logging?? This plan would destroy forests recently protected by the City of Seattle and Protect Our Watershed Alliance. Why have you dismissed alternatives that would modify existing powerlines, eliminating the forest destruction? There are important salmon fisheries in Raging River and the City of Seattle is working to re-establish salmon in Cedar River.

361-002 | BPA feels the loss of forest is not large or important. Apparently you don't understand the importance of these low elevation forests, the rapid loss of forest in the county, and the landmark decision by Seattle to preserve its watershed forests. Would BPA propose a powerline through Mt. Rainier National Park? Then why through our protected watershed?

361-003 | BPA needs to any new lines on the existing towers. In any alternative, BPA must fully mitigate for any impacts of their projects. And that means REPLACING any forests that they cut.

361-004 | Please add additional circuits to towers in the existing corridor. I INSIST that any forest or wetlands that are damaged be replaced. I also ask for a new EIS with needed information, a substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation).

Be responsible!!
Stacey Glenewinkel

361-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

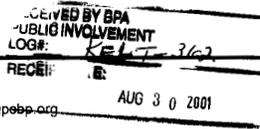
361-002 Comment noted.

361-003 Please see the response to Comment 340-002.

361-004 Please see responses to Comments 349-001, 350-003, and 357-005.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Richard Ellison [saveetree@uswest.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2001 12:26 AM
To: comment@bpa.gov; lcdriessen@bpa.gov; michael@pobp.org
Subject: Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project DEIS



August 30, 2001

362-001

I am writing in regard to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the Raging Cedar Powerline, also known as the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project. I strongly oppose the cutting any forest areas, especially in the protected Cedar River Watershed, nor the destruction of any wetlands in the construction process. Any and all wetlands and forests impacted must be mitigated.

362-002

Long term and cumulative impacts from the project must be evaluated, including impacts to amphibian populations and state sensitive plant and animal species. Species like Tall Bugbane, *Cicimifuga elata*, are state sensitive species that are only found in lowland old growth and late successional forests. This species is likely extinct in King County and has few known populations in Washington State. Lowland old growth and late successional forests are becoming rarer, and must be protected from all possible developments and disturbance. Many species that are not listed as endangered are still threatened by habitat fragmentation.

362-003

Alternative proposals must be evaluated in a new EIS, including options to modify existing towers or corridors to handle new power needs.

Thank you,

Richard Ellison, Save Seattle's Trees!
1938 10th Ave E
Seattle, WA 98102

362-001 Comment noted.

362-002 Please see response to Comment 394-090 for additional information on cumulative effects analysis.

As a part of this analysis for the SDEIS, BPA identified the potential effects on federally-listed threatened and endangered species, species of concern, and Washington State-listed threatened and endangered, and sensitive and monitor species with the potential to occur on the west side of the Cascades. Tall Bugbane was included in the analysis.

362-003 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 4:36 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Logging, Kangley - Echo Lake

RECEIVED BY DPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-363
RECEIVED: AUG 30 2001

-----Original Message-----

From: Paul Waggoner [mailto:pwags@truth.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 3:57 PM
To: 'lcdriessen@bpa.gov'
Cc: 'coment@bpa.gov'
Subject: Logging

Hallelujah !!

I happened to hear there is going to be some logging on the Cedar River Watershed - and I am delighted. ..Especially if it is old-growth.

Congratulations on your stewardship of a renewable natural resource.

Please continue to manage the forests, which certainly includes logging, and clearcutting is fine. Without it and the full sunlight to which it gives rise, Douglas-fir will not regenerate, and as you know, we'll end up with a lesser species, such as hemlock.

Please, do not cave-in to the vocal folks who think preservation is proper management.

We need the timber / lumber. We need the related jobs in the beleaguered timber industry. The forest needs the logging to harvest the trees that otherwise are destined to fall down and rot. The understory need the removal of the fuel that encourages catastrophic fire, and we need some roads for access for management and fire protection.

Regards,

Paul R. Waggoner
13802 SE 52nd Pl
Bellevue, WA 98006

425 / 644-1221
pwags@truth.com

363-001

363-001 Comment noted.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 4:34 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Comment, Kangley - Echo Lake

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG# KET-364
RECEIVED E: AUG 30 2001

364-001 Please see responses to Comment Letter 361.

-----Original Message-----

From: Zarah Kushner [mailto:zkushner@quorum-irb.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 4:02 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: Comment

Dear Mr. Driessen, Project Manager,

I am recently heard about your plans to build nine miles of new 500kilovolt line through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds and your 1.5 miles of new road construction. I think it is reprehensible to clearcut a space from 150' to 285' wide through the forest, in Seattle's watershed, which is currently protected from logging, yes? This plan would destroy forests recently protected by the City of Seattle and Protect Our Watershed Alliance, a most progressive decision. Why have you dismissed alternatives that would modify existing powelines, eliminating the forest destruction? There are important salmon fisheries in Raging River and the City of Seattle is working to re-establish salmon in Cedar River. BPA feels the loss of forest is not large or important. Apparently you don't understand the importance of these low elevation forests, the rapid loss of forest in the county, and the landmark decision by Seattle to preserve its watershed forests. Would BPA propose a powerline through Mt. Rainier National Park? Then why through our protected watershed? BPA needs to any new lines on the existing towers. In any alternative, BPA must fully mitigate for any impacts of their projects. And that means REPLACING any forests that they cut. Please add additional circuits to towers in the existing corridor. I INSIST that any forest or wetlands that are damaged be replaced. I also ask for a new DEIS with needed information, a substantive cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation). Be responsible!

Thank you for listening. I hope that my words find ears that are more focused on the environmental consequences of actions to be carried out by a company than turning a profit.

Zarah Kushner, Concerned citizen against the plans that have been set into motion by BPA.

Zarah Kushner
Associate Project Manager
Quorum Review IRB
zkushner@quorum-irb.com
<http://www.quorum-irb.com>
(V) 206-448-4082
(F) 206-448-4193

364-001

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2001 11:52 AM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: cedar & raging river watersheds

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	
LOG#:	KELT-365
RECEI:	E:
AUG 30 2001	

-----Original Message-----

From: jade deyo [mailto:jjdeyo@yahoo.com]
 Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 1:36 PM
 To: coment@bpa.gov; lcdriessen@bpa.gov
 Subject: cedar & raging river watersheds

dear bpa,

i have been a citizen of washington state for my entire life (going on 30 years now) and i have been living in seattle for the last five years. i've been to many of the other states in our great union, but none compare to the vast beauty of our state, washington.

365-001

i am writing to urge you to reconsider your stance on adding additional equipment to the cedar and raging river watersheds. i, along with many others, feel that adding additional circuits to the towers already standing would be more environmentally friendly than to tear up a large portion of the watersheds to add new equipment.

365-002

in addition i encourage you to be sure to thoroughly replace any wetlands or forest that have been or may be damaged by bpa.

365-003

i understand that you must satisfy the needs of many here in washington state, i just ask that you please take into account our environment as well. as the population of our state grows we need to take steps to ensure that protected (and non-protected) portions of our forest and wetlands don't suffer the consequences.

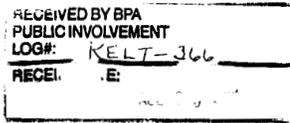
thank you for listening.

sincerely,
 jade deyo
 seattle, washington

365-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

365-002 Comment noted. Please see response to Comment 340-002.

365-003 Comment noted. BPA is siting the needed facilities to minimize the impacts on the environment, while meeting the project's purposes and need.



Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2001 11:42 AM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Raging Cedar Powerline project, Kangley - Echo Lake

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul Hezel [mailto:phezel@enviroissues.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 6:36 PM
To: 'Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3 '
Subject: RE: Raging Cedar Powerline project

Lou -

366-001 | So what if you shared the magnitude transmitted over several different routes? Say you shared it on three routes - if you lost one, you would only lose 1/3 of the added power that this new project will be carrying. That wouldn't be so bad, would it?

366-002 | Since I think some of the proposed cut areas are in very old growth forest, won't you have to cut a wider swath than the normal 75' ROW, to account for the larger trees in close proximity? That will not be good. How wide with the cut be at it's maximum?

366-003 | What if you combined conservation with the above sharing on current lines. Have you realistically looked at that? I can't imagine that the pricing on that combination would be more than this entirely new project.

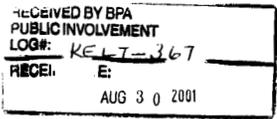
Looking forward to your reply. Thanks,

Paul

- 366-001 Increasing the number of routes and building additional lines would increase the environmental impacts.
- 366-002 Please see response to Comment 394-034 and Section 2.1.1.4 of the SDEIS.
- 366-003 Please see response to Comment 349-001.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2001 12:02 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynam, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Clearcutting Seattle's drinking water source



-----Original Message-----

From: earlybyrd@earthlink.net [mailto:earlybyrd@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2001 9:23 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Clearcutting Seattle's drinking water source

Dear Mr. Driessen,

I recently learned of the intention of the Bonneville Power Administration to build a new 500 kilovolt line through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds that are protected by the City of Seattle and Protect Our Watershed Alliance. Wetlands and salmon fisheries that the City of Seattle is trying to re-establish in the Cedar River would be impacted by this action. Your intention to clearcut through nine miles of forests in order to complete this project is unacceptable and shows no regard for the work that has been done to preserve these areas and their ecosystems.

367-001

You must find alternatives, particularly modifying the existing power structures to accommodate additional capacity instead of destroying valuable forests and compromising the Seattle watershed. In spite of the opinion of the BPA that the destruction of this swath of forest is inconsequential, there are many of us who strongly disagree.

I am frankly appalled that your plan is being seriously considered, and I strongly urge you to add additional circuits to the towers in the existing corridor. You should be held accountable for any decision that adversely affects the forest, wetlands and salmon, as well as the Seattle watershed. These issues are of extreme importance to many people who are responsible stewards of the environment. It is imperative that a new EIS with crucial and needed information including a cumulative effects analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation), be investigated and proposed.

367-002

367-003

Please act responsibly and with regard for the land, the trees, the salmon and most certainly the people of Seattle!

Barbara Glenewinkel

367-001 Comment noted.

367-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

367-003 Please see response to Comment 349-001.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-368
RECEIVED: E
AUG 30 2001

From: Roy D. Goodman [ROYGOODMAN@compuserve.com]
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2001 8:32 AM
To: Lou Driessen; Lou Driessen; Lou Driessen
Subject: Comment on Draft EIS on the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project

August 30, 2001

Lou Driessen, Project Manager
Communications
Bonneville Power Administration - KC-7
PO Box 12999
Portland, OR 97212

RE: Draft EIS on the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Driessen,

368-001 I am appalled that the Bonneville Power Administration might build new powerlines through the Cedar River Watershed. We citizens of Seattle worked long and hard over the past years to protect this watershed from any further development or unnecessary roadbuilding/treecutting/ecological destruction. Last year the Seattle City Council enacted a 50 year Habitat Conservation Plan to protect this fragile watershed. The BPA's plan to build new roads and clearcut a swath through the forest within and surrounding this watershed is an affront on the citizens of Seattle, and a threat to this protected environment.

368-002 I hereby request that, instead of all this new construction/destruction, that the BPA add additional circuits to already existing transmission line towers. Even if this results in a greater cost to be passed on to us consumers, it is still a preferable alternative. Additional alternatives, including conservation, must be considered.

368-003 Do not damage our forests. Do not destroy our wetlands. Do not compromise our watershed and its surroundings.

Thank you for acting to protect and preserve our watershed, not do it any harm.

Roy D. Goodman
4614 Linden Ave. N., #Upper
Seattle, WA 98103
phone: 206-633-5734
roygoodman@compuserve.com

Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-369
RECEIVED: E
AUG 31 2001

Telephone comment by Ginny Kuehn
8/31/01

Harold Wiren
4250 NE 88th Street
Seattle, WA 98115

368-001 BPA understands that the City of Seattle has recently adopted a HCP in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. BPA expects to minimize any impacts to the environment in constructing, operating and maintaining the facilities over the life of the project. Please see response to Comment 340-002.

368-002 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

368-003 Comment noted. Should BPA make a decision to build the project, it would do so in an environmentally-responsible manner. BPA understands the sensitivity of the Cedar River Watershed and adjoining lands, and intends to do what it can to protect and preserve the municipal watershed and not cause any harm, should a decision be made to site the facilities through the Watershed.

369-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

369-002 Although the Cedar River Watershed is owned by the Seattle Public Utilities, it is located in unincorporated King County. The environmental regulations that govern the environmentally sensitive areas, such as wetlands, within the Watershed are the King County Sensitive Areas Ordinance, and state and federal regulations. BPA intends to comply with all applicable federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations to the extent practicable.

2-145

369-001 | 1. Modify the existing power lines to accommodate the new ones.

369-002 | 2. New power lines are in a wetland area and are protected by the City of Seattle.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Driessen, Laurens C -TNP-3
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2001 11:36 AM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: Cedar River power line.Kangley - Echo Lake

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KELT-370
RECEIVED:
E:
AUG 31 2001

-----Original Message-----

From: Arthur Mink [mailto:mink3@jps.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2001 9:22 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; coment@bpa.gov
Subject: Cedar River power line.

Mr. Lou Driessen, Project Manager
Raging Cedar Powerline also known as the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission
Line
Project.

Dear Mr. Driessen:

We understand that BPA plans to clear cut a swath from 150' to 285' wide
through Seattle's watershed, which is currently protected from logging.
This
plan would destroy forests recently protected by the City of Seattle and
Protect Our Watershed Alliance. BPA apparently has dismissed
alternatives
that would modify existing power lines, eliminating the forest
destruction.

BPA apparently does not understand the importance of these low elevation
forests, the rapid loss of forest in the county, and the landmark
decision
by Seattle to preserve its watershed forests.

Would BPA propose a power line through Mt. Rainier National Park? Then
why
through our protected watershed?

We support adding additional circuits to towers in the existing
corridor.

We insist that any forest or wetlands that are damaged be replaced.

We want a new EIS with needed information, a substantive cumulative
effects
analysis and additional alternatives (including conservation).

Sincerely,

*
Arthur R. Mink
*
Lynn Mink
169 Power Ave.
Seattle, WA 98122-6545

370-001

370-001 Please see responses to Comment Letter 361.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KLT-371
RECEIVED: SEP 04 2001

From: L Brenner [brennerl@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 12:45 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: Cedar & Raging River Watersheds

371-001

I am writing as a former citizen of Seattle (I currently live in Amsterdam) to say that it is heartbreaking that once again something is being proposed that will cause unneeded damage to the amazing country of the Pacific Northwest. I want to support the idea of adding circuits to existing towers in the existng corridor. I want ot insist that all damage to forest and wetland be repaired. I want to ask that a new EIS be filed.

371-002

We cannot ever estimate the damage actions like the proposed one will do. We can estimate what we can STOP from happening. Please take preventative action NOW

371-003

Thank you

Lise Brenner
 Zocherstraat 38hs
 1054 LZ Amsterdam

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KLT-372
RECEIVED: SEP 04 2001

From: Driessen, Laurens C - TNP-3
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 9:10 PM
To: Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7
Cc: Lynard, Gene P - KEC-4
Subject: FW: <no subject>, Kangley - Echo Lake

-----Original Message-----

From: Midge Brenner [mailto:midgeb@u.washington.edu]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 2:11 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: <no subject>

To: Lou Driessen, Project Manager
 Bonneville Power Administration

Dear Mr. Driessen:

372-001

I have just learned--with alarm--that Bonneville Power Administration has plans to cut old-growth forest, to clearcut a new corridor within the Cedar River Watershed for its new Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project. This would impact several wetlands and important salmon fisheries in Raging River, as well as the work being done by the city of Seattle to re-establish salmon in the Cedar River.

I am writing to urge the BPA to stop this planning immediately. Instead, the BPA could improve the existing corridor by adding additional circuits to the towers already there. If any forest or wetlands outside the existing corridor are to be damaged, they should be replaced. But before any action by the BPA, a new Environmental Impact Statement is needed. This should include all necessary information that presents alternatives including conservation, and that provides a substantial cumulative effects analysis. Please respect the importance to all of us of preserving low elevation forests, particularly Seattle's watershed forests.

Sincerely,
 Midge Brenner
 2020 - 23rd Avenue E.
 Seattle, WA 98112

371-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

371-002 Comment noted. BPA intends to minimize the impacts to the environment, should a decision be made to build the project. Please see response to Comment 357-003.

371-003 Comment noted.

372-001 Please see responses to Comment Letter 361.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Doug Schuler [douglas@scn.org]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 10:13 AM
To: comment@bpa.gov, ldrissen@bpa.gov
Subject: Bonneville Power clearcuts

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KE 17-373
RECEI E:
SEP 04 2001

Lou Driessen, Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Dreissen:

373-001

373-002

I am deeply concerned about the clearcut that the Bonneville Power Administration proposes to make within the Cedar River Watershed. Instead, why not improve the existing corridor? Bonneville could add additional circuits to the towers in the present corridor instead of clearcutting for a new corridor. In any case, an Environmental Impact Statement that includes conservation options is absolutely essential.

Sincerely,

Doug Schuler and Terry Frankel
Seattle

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: Tracy Jenkins [tjenkins@pol.net]
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2001 11:27 AM
To: ldrissen@bpa.gov
Cc: comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Raging Cedar Powerline

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: KE 17-374
RECEI E:
SEP 04 2001

374-001

374-002

374-003

As a resident of the Northwest who lives here for the majesty and beauty of its forests, I am concerned about the casual and rapid destruction of the few remaining wildlands. The cedar river watershed is protected from logging by public request. Because the decision to damage ancient forests and wetlands is irreversible, and there is so little of the original forest left to protect, we need to go to great lengths to protect the remaining forests and wetlands. This is a priority that the public has already supported. PLEASE consider adding circuits to the existing power lines. If additional lines are necessary please minimize the width of destructive clearcut, and please replace lands impacted by the construction. The current EIS does not adequately address cumulative effects and alternatives to new lines. Please commission a new EIS with alternatives and long term cumulative effects addressed. These are critical decisions for the long term health and beauty of our northwest ecosystem. Let's not make them hastily.

Sincerely,
Tracy Jenkins, MD
3110 NW 75th St.
Seattle, WA 98117

373-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

373-002 Please see response to Comment 349-001.

374-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

374-002 Comment noted.

374-003 Comment noted. BPA designs its facilities to have an economic life of approximately 50 years. It does not make hasty decisions in siting transmission facilities. As a federal agency, BPA is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. NEPA requires that BPA undertake an environmental impact statement on all major federal actions prior to making its decisions.

Over the last three years, BPA has made a concerted effort to work with the potentially-affected public and involved government agencies to find alternatives for the proposed power line and related facilities, including undertaking this environmental impact statement. BPA is committed to complying with the letter and the intent of NEPA in identifying all of the environmental impacts the proposal would cause, in advance of the decision-maker making an informed decision. If a decision is made to build a transmission line, then those impacts would be minimized to the maximum extent practicable. See response to Comment 340-002.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: <i>KELT-375</i>
RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001

From: Megan Kelso [megan@girhero.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 02, 2001 6:02 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov
Subject: new BPA powerlines

375-001

Dear Mr. Dreissen,
 I'm writing to ask that you reconsider the new powerline corridor you are planning that will cut through the Cedar and Raging River watersheds. This would cause significant and adverse environmental impact to fragile and valuable and PROTECTED forests and wetlands. Please consider adding additional circuits to towers in the already existing corridor. I don't believe your EIS provides enough information about the cumulative effects of this new corridor, nor does it propose any viable alternatives. I think there should be a new EIS which provides this information. As a citizen of Washington state, I care deeply about our environment and saving the salmon and old growth forest. We all need to try really hard to think in the long term about how to save these resources. I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

thanks
 Megan Kelso
 citizen member of Pacific Crest Biodiversity Project

375-001 Please see responses to Comment Letter 361.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: <i>KELT-376</i>
RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001

From: Judy Lightfoot [jlight@u.washington.edu]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 9:41 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov; comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Proposed BPA clearcut



Card for Judy Lightfoot

376-001

376-002

Dear Mr. Dreissen,
 I am deeply concerned about the clearcut that the Bonneville Power Administration proposes to make within protected watersheds. Instead, why not improve the existing corridor? Bonneville could add additional circuits to the towers in the present corridor instead of clearcutting for a new one. In any case, before permitting BPA to act, demand a new Environmental Impact Statement that includes all necessary information (the present one is insufficient), that presents alternatives including conservation, and that provides a substantial cumulative effects analysis. Finally, BPA should be made responsible for replacing any forest or wetlands that are damaged in the course of this new work.
 Sincerely,
 Judy Lightfoot, PhD

376-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

376-002 Please see responses to Comments 340-002, 349-001 and 357-003.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG#: K E L T - 377
RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001

From: Bruce Pringle [pringb@compuserve.com]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 10:44 AM
To: Lou Driessen; Communications
Subject: Comment on DEIS on the Raging Cedar Powerline

Lou Driessen, Project Manager
 Bonneville Power Administration - KC-7
 Portland, Oregon

Subject: Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Raging Cedar Powerline

Dear Project Manager Driessen:

The Cedar River watershed has been given protection from logging, since it is important in protecting the city water supply. The proposed new powerline in the Cedar River and Raging River areas will remove trees and undergrowth from areas as far as 200 feet from the towers. Disturbing these valuable forests will damage wetlands and interfere with salmon habitat.

377-001

The current Environmental Impact Statement does not give adequate consideration to the possibility of using existing corridors for the new lines. It does not consider the cumulative effect over time of the proposed project. It does not provide for replacing damaged forests and wetlands.

377-002

We have already lost most of our wild areas. Please do more to protect this one.

Sincerely,

Bruce Pringle
 17037 12th Place SW
 Normandy Park, WA 98166

377-001 BPA has proposed siting the transmission facilities (towers and access/spur roads) to avoid sensitive areas such as wetlands, and their buffer areas. Where these sensitive areas could not be avoided, we have attempted to minimize their impact. No wetlands would be filled, but about 14 acres of non-jurisdictional wetlands would be converted from forested wetlands to scrub/shrub wetlands.

Additionally, BPA intends to purchase or fund the purchase of additional land that could be used for compensatory mitigation to mitigate for the damage done to sensitive areas, should BPA make a decision to build the project. See response to Comment 340-002. BPA intends to comply with all federal, state and local regulations with respect to the proposed project, and minimize impacts to wetlands.

BPA has concluded consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. We have prepared a biological assessment (BA) and have concluded that the Proposed Action would not result in destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. We asked NMFS for their concurrence in this finding, and received their concurrence in early February 2002. Please see Appendix U.

377-002 Please see responses to Comments 340-002, 349-001 and 357-003.

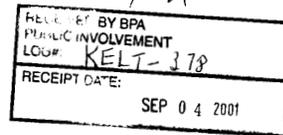
Harry Romberg
11538 17th Ave. N.E.
Seattle, WA 98125-5112

*In follow-up to my
e-mailed comments*

HR

September 3, 2001

Mr. Lou Driessen
Project Manager
Bonneville Power Administration
PO Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208



Dear Mr. Driessen:

I am a lifetime 50+ year resident of the Puget Sound region and 33 year resident of Seattle. I commented extensively both orally and in writing on the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Cedar River Watershed and was deeply involved in what I believe to have been an incredible outcome, the full protection of the watershed. I am deeply disturbed by the current proposal known as the Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project and would thus like to comment.

378-001

I oppose the project as it currently is proposed and think that it must either be significantly modified or terminated altogether. As I'm assuming the latter option is not your preferred course of action, I urge the BPA to amend the current proposal to make it more environmentally responsible. The City of Seattle had remarkable foresight in deciding to protect the watershed as fully as it did and gave up a great deal in the way of profit and the offsetting of operating costs in doing so. This transmission project diminishes that decision and threatens some of the environmental benefits sought in deciding on such a progressive HCP.

378-002

I have very serious reservations about the necessity of the proposed Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line and strong objections to many features of this project. In particular, I believe that the Draft EIS did not adequately consider increased energy conservation, which could negate the need for the additional power lines. The City of Seattle has a strong history of energy conservation, and other utilities in this area also have strong conservation programs. Increased energy conservation saves the individual ratepayers utility costs and could eliminate the capital cost of this project and the environmental damage that will result. Whereas conservation may not be adequate to meet all of the long range energy needs of the region, it certainly plays an important role and cannot be ignored in any comprehensive view of local energy needs and solutions. It should therefore not be overlooked when determining the needs and indeed the need for this project.

378-003

I am deeply concerned by the increased swath of forest that must be cut for the transmission lines and the necessity to build roads to accommodate it. BPA contends that the impact on the forest would be negligible but I would argue that it is considerable. While Seattle is working hard to provide excellent low elevation habitat in the area and diminish road capacity within the watershed, this project does just the opposite. Not only do roads, staging areas, harvesting of trees and other construction activities impact the boreal habitat but they affect the very reason for the existence of a protected watershed; that is, providing high quality water to the local population, oddly enough the same people for which you wish to provide additional transmission capacity. I think that in this case the higher quality water is more important than the added electricity.

378-004

BPA should be viewing this project with the goal of not compromising the Cedar River Watershed HCP as is the current case. In the event that additional transmission lines are required, I believe that BPA should take a much harder look at placing additional lines on the existing towers or accommodating them in some way in the existing corridor. BPA asserts that new transmission lines are required because of the possibility of damage to the existing towers. However, in my opinion, that possibility is negligible. Certainly the cost of reinforcing and strengthening the existing towers in various ways would be substantially less than the cost of the proposed project. In addition, accommodating the new lines in the existing corridor would likely reduce the number and size or even eliminate the need for the currently planned construction staging areas which would further impact the watershed

378-001 Comment noted. BPA has selected its Proposed Action based on a number of factors, including electrical performance, cost, and level of impact to the human and the natural environment. Table 2-3 of the SDEIS compares the impacts among alternatives. The Proposed Action is less likely to impact cultural resources, would have the least line losses, and is one the most economical of the alternatives analyzed in the SDEIS.

BPA has agreed to a long list of mitigation measures to diminish the impact of the Proposed Action in the Watershed. Double-circuiting the crossing of the Cedar River will avoid clearing vegetation along the riverbanks. Constructing the towers with helicopters and using new tower footing designs called micropiles would reduce the amount of ground disturbance. The purchase or funding the purchase of land adjacent to the watershed for natural resource protection will more than offset the small amount of disturbance that is expected to result from the construction. Locating the Proposed Action adjacent to an existing line would take advantage of the existing access road system and would also minimize the amount of clearing of vegetation that would be necessary. See also response to Comment 340-002.

378-002 Please see response to Comment 349-001.

378-003 BPA anticipates no short-term or long-term impact to the municipal water supply as a result of the Proposed Action. If a decision is made to build the project, BPA would prepare and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), a program regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency. In complying with the NPDES requirements, no sediments in measurable quantities would be allowed to enter surface water. As a federal agency, BPA is required to comply with the Clean Water Act, and the National Drinking Water Act and BPA intends to do so. BPA is aware of the sensitivity of the area, particularly in the Cedar River Municipal Watershed, where drinking water is collected for 1.3 million people in the Seattle metropolitan area. BPA currently has an existing transmission line that crosses the Cedar River Municipal Watershed, and BPA knows of no problems the City of Seattle currently has with this existing line

378-005 The Draft EIS does not adequately consider the very serious environmental effects from this project. The project would require 1.5 miles of new road construction through the Cedar River Watershed and the Raging River Watershed. New roads are very likely to cause soil erosion and resulting damage to water quality and fisheries resources. Additional roads also cause fragmentation and have severe impacts on wildlife in these watersheds. Although the DEIS Summary seems to infer that the road rights-of-way would only require clearing for about 75 feet, in fact, cutting of trees can be as far as 200 feet from the power line (DEIS pages 2-5). Further, the roads would impact several wetlands. In light of the enormous amounts of money that the City of Seattle and many state and federal agencies are spending to protect wetlands and salmon habitat, this additional road construction is unwise as well as unnecessary. This is especially crucial when one considers the high likelihood that during a project of this scale, there will undoubtedly be fuel spills, oil leaks and other accidental but very serious incidents that will have a major effect. As a further critical factor, the BPA should commit itself not to use herbicides in the Raging River Watershed, which contains important salmon runs.

378-006 Further, the DEIS does not adequately consider BPA's duty to mitigate if the project proceeds with the Preferred Alternative. Lowland forests are a critical ecological element in the Western Cascades. The Cedar River Watershed contains an unusually large block of old growth. It also contains second growth that now has the possibility of maturing into old growth as a result of the Cedar River HCP. This project, with a right of way up to 200 feet from the power line, would cause serious fragmentation through this forest ecosystem. Mitigation should include replacement habitat, including forests and wetlands, which should be in close proximity to the area that is disturbed. To the extent that local areas are not used for mitigation, the area of mitigation should be increased as the mitigation moves in distance. If mitigation is employed, the BPA should look at several close by areas in Green River, Raging River, near Selleck, and upper Rock Creek Valley.

378-008 Further mitigation should include but not be limited to the height of any transmission lines crossing the Cedar and Raging Rivers should be high enough to allow late successional forest to grow to 200' tall in the riparian zone of the river, and adjacent slopes. Given the topography on either side of the river, that should be feasible. The height of the towers should be increased if necessary.

378-009 Roads outside of cleared powerline right of way should be eliminated. Helicopters and/or trails to access those sites should be used instead. Any roads constructed should be offset by eliminating roads elsewhere in the watershed. No staging area should be allowed inside the watershed.

378-010 Furthermore, the DEIS fails to address cumulative impacts of this and other similar projects. Particularly when one looks at this in conjunction with existing transmission lines, the impact to forests and wildlife corridors becomes more than a little significant. In fact, this project degrades wildlife corridors in this critical ecological connection to Tiger Mtn. and Rattlesnake Ridge.

378-011 Whereas the current project will significantly affect the watershed, another route through the watershed would be far worse. Thus, I would strongly object to this course of action.

378-012 I believe has a long ways to go to adequately study the impacts of this project and the solutions to these and other serious problems. The Draft EIS lacks important site specific information on the location of towers, roads, and staging areas. It's analysis of streams and fisheries is inadequate. The cumulative affects analysis is essentially non-existent. The DEIS fails to consider a full range of alternatives. A supplemental Draft EIS should be produced and a broader public involvement process implemented.

378-013 I look forward to commenting on an improved supplemental DEIS which address these and other concerns that the current DEIS fails to address or addresses inadequately.

Sincerely,


Harry Romberg

other than an ongoing noxious weed problem that BPA is aware of. BPA would take precautions, such as washing vehicles, to prevent the spread of noxious weeds if BPA decided to build a line through the CRW.

BPA is working with Seattle Public Utilities and the Muckleshoot Tribe to develop a long-term solution to the noxious weeds issues on the CRW and on other BPA ROWs.

378-004 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

378-005 Comment noted. BPA feels that we have adequately addressed the impacts of the project. Regarding potential soil erosion, BPA would comply with the Clean Water Act and the NPDES requirements in designing and implementing a storm water pollutant prevention plan. Erosion control devices would be left in place until the area has become at least 70 percent stabilized. They then may be removed or remain in place for a longer period. When removed, a Notice of Termination will be filed with EPA.

Please see response to Comment 357-004 addressing habitat fragmentation.

With respect to the clearing impacts, the commenter is correct, danger trees could be taken as far or farther than 200 feet from the power line, depending on their height, condition, and relationship to the line. See response to Comment 340-004.

378-006 Please see response to Comment 349-004.

378-007 Please see response to Comment 340-002.

378-008 BPA proposes to double circuit (at a cost of over \$2 million) the proposed line with the existing line at the crossing of the Cedar River. This would avoid the need to clear additional riparian vegetation along the banks of the river. The crossing at the Raging River would use tower heights that would minimize clearing in riparian habitat as much as possible.

378-009 BPA is only proposing to build access/spur roads outside of the proposed right-of-way to avoid wetlands. Trails are not sufficient

surfaces for the equipment used to build and maintain the line. Helicopters would be used to construct the project, but BPA needs access to its tower sites at all times to operate and maintain the transmission system. Regarding eliminating roads elsewhere in the Watershed, BPA has no control over existing roads on private land. To access its transmission system, BPA prefers to acquire rights on existing access roads and only builds its own roads where there are no existing roads or access to those roads has been denied.

- 378-010 BPA feels that it has done an adequate job addressing cumulative impacts of past, present and any reasonable foreseeable future projects in the area in the SDEIS. BPA disagrees that critical wildlife corridors would be affected between Tiger Mountain and Rattlesnake Ridge.
- 378-011 Comment noted. BPA agrees that of the alternatives under consideration the Proposed Action is the preferable route.
- 378-012 and -013 Comment noted. A SDEIS was produced and distributed with updated information on cumulative impacts, fisheries, streams, mitigation measures, and site-specific information.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: <u>KELT-379</u> RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001
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From: Peter Roth [peterbroth@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 02, 2001 4:05 PM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov, comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Raging Cedar Powerline/Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project comment

To Lou Driessen:

I would like to comment on Raging Cedar Powerline/Kangley-Echo Lake Transmission Line Project proposal.

While I support the addition of circuits to towers in the existing corridor, I must insist that any forest or wetlands that are damaged be adequately replaced. This requires a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with a substantive analysis of ALL cumulative effects of any changes to the ecosystem. Included in this EIS should be alternatives that require NO environmental destruction. These non-destructive alternatives are the most important part of the EIS because they would require the least amount of effort and resources to implement.

Thank you for taking the time to read my input.

Sincerely,

Peter Roth
 7415 - 5th Ave NE #208
 Seattle WA 98115-5370

379-001

379-001 Please see response to Comments 349-001, 340-003, and 409-002.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: <u>KELT-380</u> RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001
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From: Kpthomas1@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 02, 2001 8:02 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov, comment@bpa.gov
Subject: Proposed Powerline in Cedar and Raging River watersheds

Bonneville Power Administration,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed nine miles of new powerline which the BPA is considering building in the Cedar and Raging River watersheds. These areas should not be subject to the road-building and clear-cutting which the installation of new powerlines would entail.

Any new lines should be placed on already existing towers, to minimize damage to the forests in the watersheds. Any damage done to forests or wetlands by the installation of new powerlines should be replaced.

Our watersheds and forests require protection now and in the future. Please do not build new powerlines.

Sincerely,

Karen P. Thomas
 4435 First Avenue NW
 Seattle, Washington 98107

380-001

380-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7

From: bweeks [bweeks@quidnunc.net]
Sent: Monday, September 03, 2001 10:26 AM
To: lcdriessen@bpa.gov, coment@bpa.gov
Subject: BPA-Cedar River

RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG#: <i>KELT-381</i>
RECEIPT DATE: SEP 04 2001

Dear Mr. Dreissen,

I am deeply concerned about the clearcut that the Bonneville Power Administration proposes to make within the Cedar River Watershed. Instead, why not improve the existing corridor? Bonneville could add additional circuits to the towers in the present corridor instead of clearcutting for a new corridor. In any case, before permitting BPA to act, demand a new Environmental Impact Statement that includes all necessary information (the present one is insufficient), that presents alternatives including conservation, and that provides a substantial cumulative effects analysis. Finally, BPA should be made responsible for replacing any forest or wetlands that are damaged in the course of this new work.

Sincerely,
Robert R Weeks

381-001

381-002

381-001 Please see the response to Comment 340-003.

381-002 Please see responses to Comments 340-002, 350-003, and 357-003.