

Public Comments

<p>Kuehn, Ginny -KC-7</p> <p>From: Betsy Bloomfield [bloomfield@bpa.org] Sent: Monday, March 25, 2002 5:55 PM To: command_digcp.gov Subject: Hamford Trans DEIS comments.doc</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>ATTN: Mr. Lou Dresen, Project Manager Please see attached comments on the Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement.</p> <p>Elizabeth Bloomfield South Central Washington Program Manager 208 S 6th Ave. Suite 200 Ellensburg, WA 98926 (509) 962-1333</p>	<p>Re: Shultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line - EIS Comments</p> <p>Sir/Madam:</p> <p>Please see attached comments on the Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement.</p> <p>Elizabeth Bloomfield South Central Washington Program Manager 208 S 6th Ave. Suite 200 Ellensburg, WA 98926 (509) 962-1333</p>
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<p>LAW OFFICES OF MARK A. CHMELIEWSKI</p> <p>414 VINE STREET SUITE 1000 SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101 (206) 467-1122 FAX: (206) 467-1129 e-mail: mark@chmeli.com</p>	<p>RECEIVED at BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOON: SH0EIS - C214 RECEIPT DATE: MAR 26 2002</p>	<p>March 22, 2002</p> <p>Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Public Affairs Office - KC PO Box # 12999 Portland, OR 97212</p> <p>Re: Shultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line - EIS Comments</p> <p>Sir/Madam:</p> <p>I am <u>not</u> in favor of any new transmission mission lines in Kittitas County, Washington — the traditional NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) response. However, realizing that it most likely will occur, I generally favor the Preferred Alternative which is north of the existing lines through Kittitas County.</p> <p>I am strongly <u>not</u> in favor of the potential reroute in Segment A (Colockum Pass S - Section 6 of SWSE Quad). This is the Fairview District at the base of Colockum and Cooke Canyons. From my residence on Gage Road, this is a Visually Sensitive Viewpoint.</p> <p>It is my understanding that this portion of the reroute is part of a Yakama Nation allotment. I question if there have been any cultural uses or hunting uses of that property in recent memory which warrants a reroute. Have any Native American, traditional cultural practices ever been documented for this piece of property? It is also my understanding that BPA currently holds an easement for this allotment and is currently negotiating to purchase this piece of property from the Yakama Nation through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). I strongly urge BPA to work quickly and fairly with the BIA to purchase this property to avoid a costly and lengthy legal challenge to a reroute in Segment A.</p> <p>If BPA refuses or can not purchase the needed property from BIA, why not double circuit this short distance to avoid a reroute in Segment A? It is clearly a cheaper and more efficient alternative. I was told by BPA representatives at a recent public hearing that the entire distance of the Schultz-Hanford reroute is 60 miles; was also told that BPA is double circuiting at least a 8 mile section of the reroute to accommodate agricultural concerns. If BPA is willing to double circuit for apple trees shouldn't the same concession be made for less than a 1 mile portion to accommodate human and environmental concerns?</p>
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Public Comments

Chapter 6 — Comments and Responses

<p>21-4</p> <p>My final concerns deal with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS 0325). Were any walkthroughs or field evaluations done specifically in the reroute of Segment A? The Fish and Wildlife Resource Report, Appendix F, page 4 from 01-17-02, indicates that only one field visit took place in February 2001. One day of one season is not representative of complexities of an environment.</p>	<p>This area could be prime agricultural farm land and is prime wildlife habitat. As a landowner and year round resident of adjacent property I have seen bobcat, cougar, a migrating elk herd, deer, skunk, porcupine, raccoon, coyotes, voles, chipmunk, 3-4 species of owl, 3-4 species of hawks, grouse, quail, pheasant, curlews, 3 types of trout in Cooke Creek, and migrating American Bald Eagles in this immediate area. This area of shrub-steppe habitat has been designated a Priority Habitat by the State of Washington. Consequently I believe that your draft EIS needs additional work and input from local residents and professionals who know the immediate area and the visual, geological, and wildlife values that be lost with a reroute through Segment A.</p> <p>A. Accordingly, I strongly urge and advise you to avoid a reroute through Segment A.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p> Mark A. Chmelewski</p>
<p>21-5</p> <p>My largest concern is with the EIS preparers. The list includes Ph. Ds, authors, Project Managers, urban designers, writers, editors, planning consultants, technical editors, visual information specialist, landscape architects, project engineers, contract managers and a reality specialist. Most notably absent is input from any area landowners, local hunters, local fishermen, State hydrologists, State Wildlife Officers, Fish and Game Department Agents, DNR agents, BLM agents, DOD representatives or State biologists. These agencies were contacted, but to what degree? Why weren't they part of the preparation of the EIS?</p>	<p>This area could be prime agricultural farm land and is prime wildlife habitat. As a landowner and year round resident of adjacent property I have seen bobcat, cougar, a migrating elk herd, deer, skunk, porcupine, raccoon, coyotes, voles, chipmunk, 3-4 species of owl, 3-4 species of hawks, grouse, quail, pheasant, curlews, 3 types of trout in Cooke Creek, and migrating American Bald Eagles in this immediate area. This area of shrub-steppe habitat has been designated a Priority Habitat by the State of Washington. Consequently I believe that your draft EIS needs additional work and input from local residents and professionals who know the immediate area and the visual, geological, and wildlife values that be lost with a reroute through Segment A.</p> <p>A. Accordingly, I strongly urge and advise you to avoid a reroute through Segment A.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p> Mark A. Chmelewski</p>
<p>21-6</p>	<p>(SOD 933-LAW (1529)) 410 NORTH PINE ELLENBURG, WA 98926 mail: law@elthurg.com</p> <p>(509) 933-1FAX (1529) mark.a.chmelewski@washington.com</p>

<p>BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement</p>	
<p>Comment Form</p>	
<p>1. What are your comments on the Preferred Alternative?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>2. What are your comments on other alternatives?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>3. I need more information about _____</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>4. Additional comments —</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please put me on your project mailing list. (You are already on the mail list if you have received mailed notice.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please remove me from the project mailing list.</p>	<p>Name: Mark A. Chmelewski Address: 410 N. Pine St. Ellensburg, WA 98926</p>
<p>Please send comments by March 25, 2002 to:</p> <p>Bonneville Power Administration Public Affairs Office - KC P.O. Box 13999 Portland, OR 97212</p> <p></p>	

Public Comments

<p>Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC</p> <p>Law Firm</p> <p>P. Arkey Harrel Attorney at Law (206) 467-4675 arharrel@wkg.com</p> <p>March 25, 2002</p> <p>RECEIVED BY BPA LODGE: S.H.D.E. 5 - CO 2, 145751.01 RECEIPT #: 145751.01 MAR 26 2002</p> <p>Bonneville Power Administration Communications – K.C.7 P.O. Box 12999 Portland, OR 97212</p> <p>Re: Schalitz-Henfield Area Transmission Line Project – DOE/EIS 0325 CORRECTIONS: Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement</p> <p>Dear Sir or Madam:</p> <p>With respect to our comment letter and attachments dated March 22, 2002, submitted on behalf of Cooke Coleman LLC and Gaylord Kellogg, aka the "Kellogg Family Ranch," with respect to the referenced Project and DEIS, please consider the following corrections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment numbers 2 and 3, which depict an aerial photograph of overview of Kellogg Family Ranch (dated May 11, 2002), and an aerial photograph of springs of Kellogg Family Ranch (dated May 11, 2001), respectively, incorrectly illustrate the boundaries of property owned by Chmelarwski's/avail. We will be submitting revised versions of these attachments for your consideration as soon as possible. The last sentence in the last paragraph on page 16 of our comment letter should be replaced with the following: "Actual study of the potential impact of the property value of the Kellogg Family Ranch would likely show a clear decrease in property value with two transmission lines crossing approximately .6 of a mile of the property fronting on four county roads: Coleman Creek Road, Cooke Canyon Road, Gage Road, and Colcockton Road." <p style="text-align: right;">22-1</p>	<p>Mar 25/02 8:00 AM 1 : 42 P.M. 4/28 8:49 0814</p> <p>Bonneville Power Administration March 25, 2002 Page 2</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of these corrections. Please contact us if you have any questions.</p> <p>Very truly yours,</p> <p><i>P. Arkey Harrel</i> WILLIAMS, KASTNER & GIBBS PLLC</p> <p>Enclosures</p> <p>cc: Clients Nancy Wittman, Environmental Lead Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Oversight Environmental Protection Agency, Attention Office of Federal Activities John Iani, Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10</p> <p>Send to: Teresa</p> <p>1245224 1 1245225 1</p>
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Public Comments

Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC	
FAX Cover Sheet	
Multi-Party Transmittal	
Date:	March 25, 2002
File Name:	Kelling
File No.:	14763 101
<p>¹ pages, which includes this cover sheet, are being sent to you. Our FAX telephone number is (206) 628-6611. If for some reason you do not receive all of the pages or transmission is not clear, please call our FAX operator at (206) 233-2920.</p> <p>PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL.</p> <p>ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT/ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>This facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential, and is intended solely for the use of the individual named above. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby advised that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited. If you have received this FAX in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone and return the original FAX message to the sender by U.S. mail.</p>	
To:	Company: FAX No.: Telephone No.
Office of Federal Activities	Environmental Protection Agency 1-202-564-0670 1-800-564-2490
Nancy Wimpsett	Bonneville Power Administration 1-503-230-5699 1-503-230-3297
Carol Bergstrom	U.S. Dept. of Energy 1-202-586-7031 1-800-585-4660
John Iau	Environmental Protection Agency 206-533-0149 206-533-1200
BPA Communications - KC-7	Bonneville Power Administration 1-503-230-3285 1-800-622-4519
<p>Attached please our letter dated March 25, 2002, document number 1265225.</p> <p><i>Dily Haas</i></p> <p>HARD COPY: X TO FOLLOW <input type="checkbox"/> RETAINED</p> <p>From P. Arley Harr</p> <p>Abarrat wkg.com 206-528-5625</p> <p>Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC 1265225.1</p>	

<p>United States Department of the Interior</p> <p>BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Spokane District Wenatchee Field Office 915 Walla Walla Avenue Wenatchee, Washington 98801 1793, 2800 (134)</p> <p>RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LOG# 5-FD-E-T- RECEIPT DATE: MAR 27 2002</p>	<p>March 25, 2002</p> <p>Lou Driessen, Project Manager Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621</p> <p>Dear Mr. Driessen:</p> <p>This is sent to provide comments on the draft EIS for the Schullit-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project (DOE/EIS-0325). The Bureau of Land Management is a formal cooperator for this EIS.</p> <p>Under the preferred alternative (Alternative 2), BLM public lands would be crossed by Segments A, B and C. Of these segments, BLM has special concerns over possible impacts to public lands located in the west end of the Saddle Mountains (Segment D). From previous discussions and correspondence, BLM was of the understanding that BPA would strive to double circuit the existing transmission line in this segment in order to minimize impacts. However, the DEIS states that double-circulating of Segment D is only planned for the portion of route that begins nine miles south of the Vantage substation, and continuing south for eight miles across irrigated agricultural lands. This would mean that an entirely new powerline and ancillary access roads would be constructed across BLM lands in the Saddle Mountains, the most rugged portion of the preferred alternative. Because of the resource values present on these lands, the BLM has reservations about this plan, and requests that the preferred alternative in the final EIS be written to consider double-circumventing the portion of the existing powerline crossing BLM lands on this segment.</p> <p>Additionally, BLM has the following concerns or comments on the resource analysis contained in the DEIS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We note that resource inventories have not been completed on the public lands proposed to be crossed by the project. Included are Class III archaeological inventories, rare plant inventories, and sensitive wildlife species inventories. Consequently, both the affected environment and environmental consequences chapters of the DEIS are inadequate. Prior to the completion of the Final EIS, these inventories must be completed and the reports provided to BLM for review. In order for the resource inventories to have validity, it is essential that rare plant and sensitive species surveys be undertaken at the current time of the year. For example, Washington ground squirrels are active from late January or early
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Public Comments

23-2 cont.
 February into June. Bald eagles are present from late October through March. The BLM also needs to receive copies of the Biological Assessment(s) prepared for the project.

23-3 In order for BLM to comply with Native American consultation requirements, BLM needs to share the completed archaeological inventories with the affected tribes before the final EIS is written. This is so the tribes may have an opportunity to provide input into the analysis.

23-4 2. Certain table headings and discussion terms in the rare plants portion of Chapter 3 (section 3.4.4.; page 3-26-1), and Appendix E need to be modified in order to read correctly. The descriptor "BLM special status species" is more appropriate for table 3-4-7, and the heading and discussion under 3-4-4.3 (the DEIS uses "BLM sensitive species?") Terms used in Appendix E, Table 6 and the attendant discussion should be likewise changed. "BLM sensitive species" are specific species that are designated by respective BLM State Directors, and are generally state threatened or endangered species. Throughout the EIS document and appendices, the term "BLM sensitive species" should be replaced with "BLM special status species."

23-5 3. Table 3.7-2 (page 3-51) incorrectly states that no BLM ownership exists on the B-north and B-south routes. In reality, from your alignment maps it appears that BLM lands would be crossed by Segment B in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 12, T. 16N., R. 21E., section 28, T. 16N., R. 22E., and section 20, T. 16N., R. 23E.. All except the portion of section 20 east of the former Milwaukee railroad bed are within the boundary of the Army's Yakima Training Center. However, the Army has not yet received a formal withdrawal on these lands and they remain under BLM jurisdiction. BLM would ultimately issue any right-of-way across these parcels (subject to Army concurrence). Because the table is incorrect, the discussion under 3-7.4.2 (page 3-58) needs to be revised.

23-6 4. In section 5.5.1.1 (page 5-4), the text incorrectly states that the BLM Spokane District is divided into 13 management areas. Through a 1992 resource management plan (RMP) amendment, BLM reduced the number of management areas from 13 to 10. Table 5.5-1 on page 5-5 also needs to be changed: Segment B should read "Saddle Mountains," Segment C, "Scattered Tracts," and Segment D, "Saddle Mountains and Scattered Tracts."

23-7 5. In order to permit meaningful review of the proposal, higher detail maps need to be included in the document. The maps provided with the document are not of sufficient scale or detail. We recommend additional maps that have a scale of at least 1:50,000. These maps should include contour lines and proposed tower and access road locations, if possible.

Please note that the BLM is not completely finished in its review of the DEIS. We will provide additional comments to BPA by April 2, 2002.

23-8 Prior to the completion of the final EIS, it is essential that a meeting be scheduled between BPA and BLM to discuss the project. We also need to discuss the BLM's ready requirements for authorizing the project. The BPA will need to file both a right-of-way application and a plan of development with BLM.

If clarification is needed regarding the above comments, please contact Kathy Helm at 509/535-1200.

Sincerely,

James P. Fisher
Field Manager

cc: Kathy Helm, Spokane District Office
Eric Stone, Oregon/Washington State Office (OR 933)

Public Comments

Chapter 6 — Comments and Responses



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**
Douglas B. Macdonald
Secretary of Transportation

South Central Region
2809 Klickitat Street, Union Gap
P.O. Box 12460
Yakima, WA 98959-2846
(509) 573-7860
TTY: 1-800-833-5348
www.wsdot.wa.gov

March 25, 2002

Bonneville Power Administration
Communications – KC-7
TNN-TPP-3, Schultz – Hanford Area Transmission Line Project
(Associated with WSDOT letter dated January 25, 2001)

Attention: Lou Driessen, Project Manager

Subject: Department of Energy; Bonneville Power Administration
TNN-TPP-3, Schultz – Hanford Area Transmission Line Project
(Associated with WSDOT letter dated January 25, 2001)

24-1

We have reviewed the proposed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). WSDOT previously submitted comments concerning this proposal in a letter dated January 25, 2001. That letter identified concerns we have, and any permits that would be required. We have no additional comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project. If you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact John Gruber at (509) 577-1636.

Sincerely,


Troy A. Sung, P.E.
Regional Planning Engineer

TAS:

rbjg
File #6, U.S. & State Agencies (2000)
cc:
Barry Peterson, WSDOT-North Central Region Utilities

Lionel Heinrich, WSDOT-North Central Region, Area 2 Maint. Superintendent
Jamil Anabawi, Utilities Engineer
Terry Kukes, Area 1 Maintenance Superintendent
Don Wherry, Area 2 Maintenance Superintendent
Tom Root, Area 3 Maintenance Superintendent

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Williams Kastner & Gibbs PLLC

LAW FIRM

To: [Redacted]
601 I Street, Suite 4100
Sacramento, California 95814-2348
P.O. Box 210265
Sacramento, California 95811-3026
Telephone: (209) 625-6000
Fax: (209) 625-5611

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LOG# S.H.D.F.15-C.L.S
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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
LOG# S.H.D.F.15-C.L.S
Date: 2/7/2002

March 26, 2002

Bonneville Power Administration
Communications – KC-7
P.O. Box 12999
Portland, OR 97212

Re: Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project – DOE/EIS 0335
CORRECTIONS: Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Attachments 2 and 3: aerial photographs of overview and springs

Dear Sir or Madam:

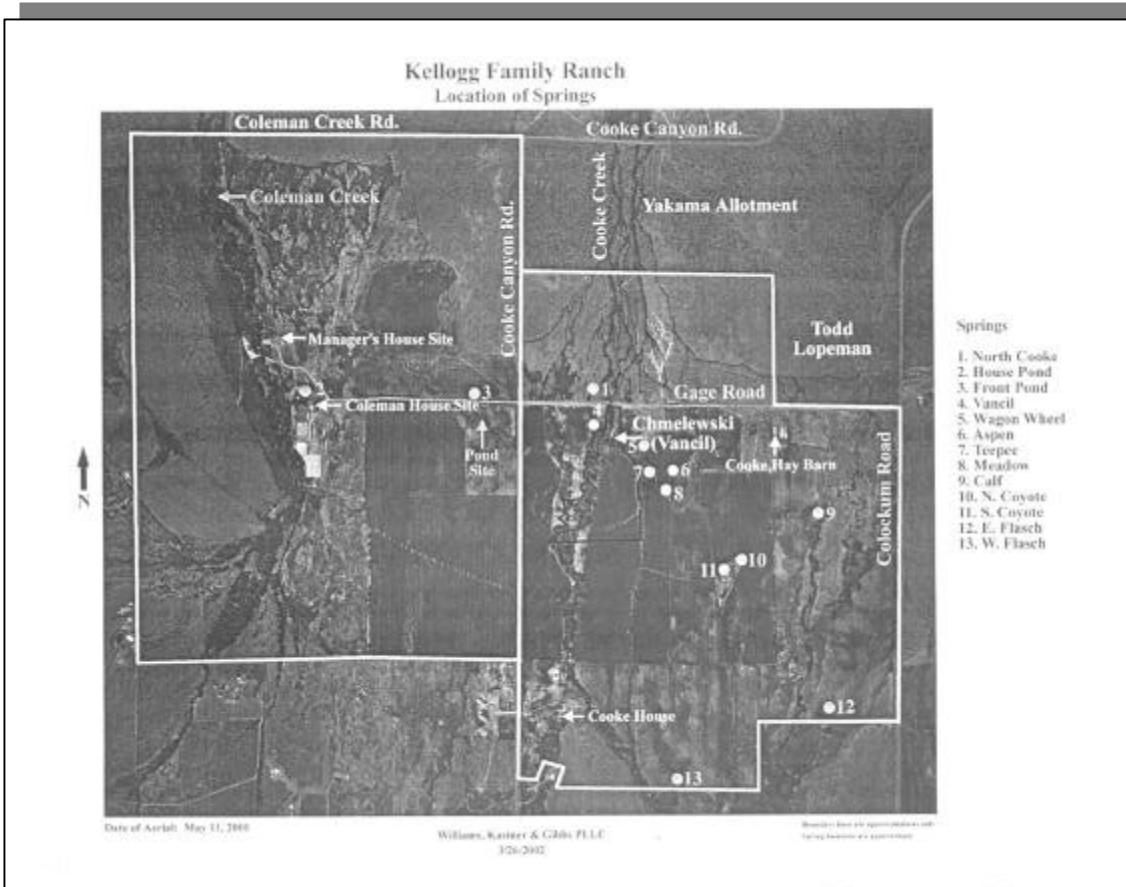
This is a follow up to our letter of March 25, 2002 concerning corrections to our comment letter and attachments dated March 22, 2002, submitted on behalf of Cooke Coleman LLC and Gaylord Kellogg, aka the "Kellogg Family Ranch," with respect to the referenced Project and DEIS. We enclose revised Attachments number 2 and 3, Attachment numbers 2 and 3 depict an aerial photograph of overview of Kellogg's Family Ranch (dated May 11, 2002), and an aerial photograph of springs of Kellogg Family Ranch (dated May 11, 2001), respectively. The substitute Attachments correct the illustration of the approximate boundaries of property shown as Chmielewski/Vancil. The substitute Attachments have been dated at the bottom as March 26, 2002.

25-1

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Williams
Kastner

126449.1

Public Comments



Bonneville Power Administration
March 26, 2002
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of these corrected Attachments. Please contact us if you have any questions.

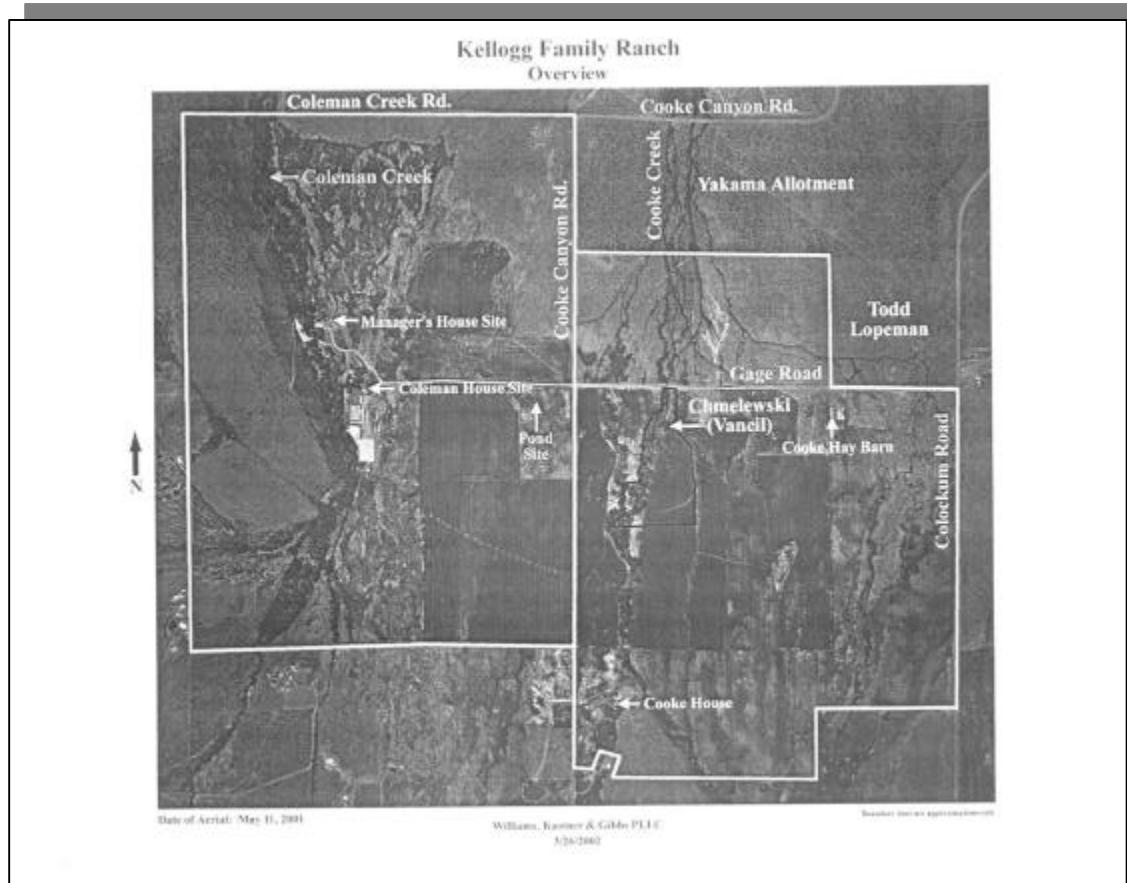
Very truly yours,

P. Arley Harrel
WILLIAMS, KASTNER & GIBBS PLLC
P. Arley Harrel
Attorneys at Law

Enclosures
cc:
Clients
Nancy Wittmann, Environmental Lead
Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Oversight
Environmental Protection Agency, Attention: Office of Federal Activities
John Iani, Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

1265429.1

Public Comments



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile
<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U.S. Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Facsimile
<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/>

John Lani, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, EXKA-124
Seattle, Washington 98101
Fax: 206-553-0149

Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Office of Federal Activities (A-104)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
Fax: (202) 564-0070

The foregoing statement is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and is true and correct.

Signed at Seattle, Washington, this 26th day of March, 2002.

Nancy Lygren
Nancy Lygren

Public Comments

DECLARATION OF SERVICE							
1. Nancy Lygren, say:							
1. I am now and at all times herein mentioned, a citizen of the United States and resident of the State of Washington, over the age of eighteen years, not a party to the above-captioned action, and competent to testify as a witness.							
2. I am employed with the law firm of Williams, Kastner & Gibbs PLLC, 4100 Two Union Square, 601 Union Street, Seattle, Washington.							
3. On March 26, 2002, we caused to be served the following documents in the manner indicated:							
(1) Letter dated March 26, 2002, re: Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project – DOE/EIS 0325; CORRECTIONS; Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement Attachments 2 and 3; serial photographs of overview and springs directed to the Bonneville Power Administration, Communications – KC-7 (Document No. 1265429).							
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Bonneville Power Administration Communications – KC-7 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5285</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nancy A. Wirtzheim (KC-4) Environmental Project Lead Bonneville Power Administration 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5699</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carol Borgstrom, Director Office of NEPA oversight, EH-25 U.S. Dept. of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue S. W. Washington D.C. 20585 Fax: 202-586-7031</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email</td> </tr> </table>		Bonneville Power Administration Communications – KC-7 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5285	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email	Nancy A. Wirtzheim (KC-4) Environmental Project Lead Bonneville Power Administration 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email	Carol Borgstrom, Director Office of NEPA oversight, EH-25 U.S. Dept. of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue S. W. Washington D.C. 20585 Fax: 202-586-7031	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email
Bonneville Power Administration Communications – KC-7 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5285	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email						
Nancy A. Wirtzheim (KC-4) Environmental Project Lead Bonneville Power Administration 905 NE 11th Avenue Portland, OR 97232 Fax: (503) 230-5699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email						
Carol Borgstrom, Director Office of NEPA oversight, EH-25 U.S. Dept. of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue S. W. Washington D.C. 20585 Fax: 202-586-7031	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U. S. Mail Facsimile Email						

United States Department of the Interior	
<p style="text-align: center;">OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE 500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20585 Telephone: (202) 501-0100</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RECEIVED BY BPA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT LCG# 54 DE-55-C-246 RECEIPT DATE: APR 03 2002</p>	April 2, 2002
<p>ER020150</p> <p>Mr. Lou Driessen, Project Manager Bonneville Power Administration Communications - KC-7 P.O. Box 12999 Portland, Oregon</p> <p>Subject: COMMENTS – Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project, DOE/EIS-0325, Kittitas, Yakima, Grant, and Benton Counties, Washington</p> <p>Dear Mr. Driessen</p>	
<p>The Department of the Interior (Department) has reviewed the subject draft environmental impact statement for the proposed Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project, DOE/EIS-0325, to be located in Kittitas, Yakima, Grant, and Benton Counties, Washington. The following comments reflect considerable concern about environmental impacts related to the construction and operation of the proposed project, especially for the project's potential to adversely affect the operation and management of the Hanford Reach National Monument and the Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge. The Department requests that the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) address these concerns, including continued consultation and coordination with the Hanford Reach National Monument/Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, during the development of the final environmental impact statement for this proposed project.</p>	
<p>GENERAL COMMENTS</p> <p>In December 2001, the Department, through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hanford Reach National Monument/Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge, provided preliminary comments on an earlier draft of this environmental document. Several text and figure inaccuracies describing administrative boundaries and agency management responsibility on the Hanford Site, the Hanford Reach National Monument (Monument), and the Saddle Mountain National Wildlife Refuge were noted. Concerns were also expressed regarding the treatment of cultural resources. Review of the subject document indicates that most text corrections describing administrative boundaries and</p>	