



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Shoshone Field Office
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Shoshone, Idaho 83352-5284
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In Reply Refer To:
2850/IDI-012961 (IDT030) P

JAN 04 2016

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

Dear Interested Party:

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is announcing the availability of, and requesting comments on, the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the King to Wood River 138kV Transmission Line Rebuild, IDI-12961 (DOI-BLM-ID-T030-2014-0007-EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA; 42 United States Code 4321 et seq.), Council on Environmental Quality NEPA implementing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations parts 1500 to 1508), and the BLM Handbook 1790-1.

BACKGROUND: In March 2014, the BLM sent out a scoping information package, soliciting comments from interested and affected parties of the proposal to identify potential environmental issues and develop alternatives to the proposed action. The BLM received three public comments over the initial public scoping and review period.

The EA was prepared to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposal from Idaho Power Company to renew and amend their existing right-of-way grant. The proposed action includes rebuilding the existing 138kV transmission line, widening the existing right-of-way width, and authorizing the maintenance and use of existing roads and construction of new service roads. The proposal also includes a request for a short-term right-of-way grant during construction for the authorization of temporary work spaces that would be outside of the proposed right-of-way area.

The EA is available on the BLM e-Planning Website at:

https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Courtney Busse, Realty Specialist/Idaho Power Company Right-of-Way Team Manager - 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709; email - cbusse@blm.gov; telephone - (208) 373-3872.

DATES: To ensure that all comments are considered in the final decision making, comments must be received by the BLM no later than January 19, 2016. Comments should be as specific as possible and address the analysis of potential environmental impacts and the adequacy of the proposed action or merits of alternatives and the mitigation being considered. Reviewers should organize their comments to be meaningful and inform the BLM of their interests and concerns by quoting or providing specific references to the text of the EA. This commenting procedure is intended to ensure that substantive comments and concerns are made available to the BLM in a timely manner so that the BLM has an opportunity to address them.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Shoshone Field Office during regular business hours, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments in writing to Codie Martin, Shoshone Field Manager, at the address above, or by email at blm_wo_king_woodriver@blm.gov.

Sincerely,



Codie Martin
Shoshone Field Manager