



Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 61409
Vancouver, WA 98666-1409

TRANSMISSION SERVICES

May 29, 2024

In reply refer to: TEP-TPP-1

To: People interested in the Shelton-Fairmount Transmission Line Rebuild and Fiber Optic System Replacement Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Shelton-Fairmount Transmission Line Rebuild and Fiber Optic System Replacement Project. Based on the final EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and has made a decision to proceed with the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

Background: BPA will fully rebuild the 40-mile-long Shelton-Fairmount No. 1 115kilovolt transmission line and replace the fiber optic communication cable system associated with the transmission line that runs 107 miles in total from Olympia, WA to Port Angeles, WA. The project will provide customers on the Olympic Peninsula a more reliable power source, increase the reliability and capabilities of the BPA communication system with the new fiber optic cable, and create a safer work environment for field operations and maintenance staff through transportation system upgrades.

BPA prepared an EA to help the agency determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BPA released the draft EA for public review and comment in August 2023 and received comments from eight entities. The final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the project will not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Decision: BPA has decided to construct the Shelton-Fairmount Transmission Line Rebuild and Fiber Optic System Replacement Project. Project construction is expected to begin in March 2025 and continue through October 2028, with breaks in construction during seasonal restrictions.

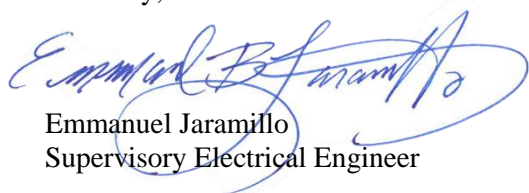
Copies Available: The final EA, FONSI, and mitigation action plan are available on BPA's website at www.bpa.gov/nepa/shelton-fairmount. If you previously requested a copy of the documents, they are enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of any of these documents, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520; leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address.

For More Information: If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact the Environmental Protection Specialist, Mike O'Connell, toll-free at 800-622-4519, directly at 503-230-7692, or by e-mail at mjocconnell@bpa.gov.

If you have other questions or would like more project information, please call Scott Lissit, Project Manager, at the toll-free number listed above, directly at 503-230-5057, or by e-mail at salissit@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emmanuel Jaramillo", is written over a circular blue stamp or seal.

Emmanuel Jaramillo
Supervisory Electrical Engineer

Enclosures (if requested):

Final EA

FONSI/Mitigation Action Plan