**Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project**
**Mitigation Action Plan**
**for**
**Wautoma Substation**

Background

This Mitigation Action Plan (MAP) addresses construction of the Wautoma substation portion of the Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project in central Washington. Department of Energy (DOE) Implementing Procedures and Guidelines for NEPA (10 CFR 1021) require the preparation of a MAP for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared on a Federal project. The MAP must address mitigation commitments made in the Final EIS and Record of Decision (ROD). The Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on March 17, 2003. The MAP explains how the measures designed to mitigate adverse environmental impacts will be planned and implemented throughout the duration of the project.

This document only addresses mitigation associated with construction of the Wautoma Substation. This project will be built by contract, and the mitigation measures discussed in the mitigation action plan are included in the Construction Contract specifications. The contractor is obligated to implement the mitigation measures as identified in the construction contract. The transmission line is being built under a different contract and mitigation for construction of the transmission line portion of the Schultz-Hanford Area Transmission Line Project will be identified in a separate MAP and provided to the appropriate contractor.

This MAP identifies a number of areas as environmentally sensitive and Federal, state and local laws protect these areas. In the vicinity of the Wautoma substation, several sensitive areas (SAs) have been identified. The mitigation actions and Best Management Practices (BMPs) required to avoid impacts to these areas are described for each of these areas in the following sections and tables.

Erosion and Sediment Control Plans

BPA has identified sensitive areas that will require protection from project-related activities. BPA has identified several “Typical” Best Management Practices (BMP’s) for erosion control for the various project activities. In developing the Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPP) Plan, BPA has identified several “Typical” BMPs used for erosion control that are typically the ones used by the governing state or local jurisdiction. BPA’s SWPP plan also references other parts in the project specifications and clauses that prevent pollution activities. In advance of ground disturbing or construction activities, BPA’s Contractor and subcontractors will evaluate and design a site-specific erosion and sediment control plan (ESCP) for that location and/or activity.

Monitoring and Appraisal Requirements

BPA realizes the importance of monitoring or auditing to insure that mitigation commitments are carried out and that they perform as expected. The Environmental Protection Agency encourages Federal agencies to establish self-audit or appraisal programs to insure successful mitigation commitments. In response, BPA has developed

a self-appraisal process that is directed at insuring that operating facilities and new construction perform with minimal impacts. On new construction, BPA places the responsibility for day-to-day inspections and compliance on the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR). In addition, BPA environmental staff stays involved with the project and conducts field reviews.

BPA has incorporated both general and specific mitigation measures to address impacts that occur throughout the Project area. These measures are outlined in the tables that follow. It should be noted that revisions or improvements to the MAP may be made should new information or more effective mitigation become available.

Mitigation Responsibility

Responsibility for mitigation is shared. Below is a summary of the principals and their responsibility for the environmental design, construction, monitoring, and permitting for this project.

- Contractor – The contractor has the primary responsibility for mitigating project impacts as identified in the construction contract. The contractor is Christenson Electric Inc.

- Project Manager – The project manager has the ultimate responsibility for contract content and environmental performance. He is responsible for budget, schedule and project compliance with environmental regulations. The Project Manager is Johny Luiz (360) 619-6182.

- Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) – The COTR is responsible for day-to-day construction inspection that is intended to insure that environmental contract specifications are properly carried out and issues resolved. The COTR is Ed Newbigging (360) 921-8548.

- Construction Environmental Lead – The construction environmental lead is responsible for the preparation of the MAP, contractor orientation and monitoring, and environmental issue resolution. The construction environmental lead is Phil Smith (503) 230-3294.

For more Information

If you have any questions about the Mitigation Action Plan, please contact Phil Smith at (503) 230-3294. If you have any general questions about the project, including the construction schedule, please contact Johny Luiz at (360) 619-6182.

**TABLE 1-1 GENERAL MITIGATION MEASURES**

| General Impact Category | Mitigation |
|---|---|
| General - Land Use | • Equipment operators and the construction crew will be instructed to leave gates as they are found, open or closed, to avoid disturbances to livestock, and to stay within the right-of-way (ROW) to minimize impacts. |
| General – Soils and Water Quality | • BPA has prepared a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPP) that outlines the BMPs for erosion prevention and sediment control.<br>• As part of the SWPP Plan, BPA has prepared a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan to minimize the potential for spills of hazardous materials and their transport to streams and other water bodies.<br>• To reduce disturbance to soils and vegetation, vehicle use will be restricted to access roads and immediate work areas.<br>• Access road drainage structures shall be kept functional and the road surface must be maintained to minimize erosion, run-off, and sedimentation.<br>• BMPs to prevent erosion and control run-off will be maintained and kept functional. |
| Noxious Weeds | • BPA will identify and evaluate existing weed populations to determine the most effective treatment for eradication or control.<br>• To inhibit weeds from becoming established on the new ROW, disturbed areas will be stabilized and replanted as soon as practicable with a seed mix approved by BPA.<br>• Equipment and vehicles used in weed control efforts will be thoroughly cleaned before moving to non-infested areas. |
| General Floodplains | • No fill will be placed in the floodplain of Dry Creek. |

| General Impact Category | Mitigation |
|---|---|
| General - Cultural Resources | • In the unlikely event that cultural resources are uncovered during construction, work in the immediate vicinity of the discovery will be halted and the area secured. The Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), affected Native American tribes, and BPA archaeologist will be notified immediately, and a professional archaeologist who meets the Secretary of Interior's Qualifications Standards will examine the site and make recommendations for mitigation. |
| General - Public Health and Safety | • BPA requires that the construction contractor develop an emergency response plan that includes responding to a potential accidental fire during construction. |
| General – Air Quality | • BPA requires that the construction contractor develop and implement a suitable dust abatement plan to control and minimize dust.<br>• Construction and maintenance vehicles and equipment will be in good running condition, minimizing emissions. |