



Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project

Joint ODOE Information and NEPA Scoping Meetings
August 2010

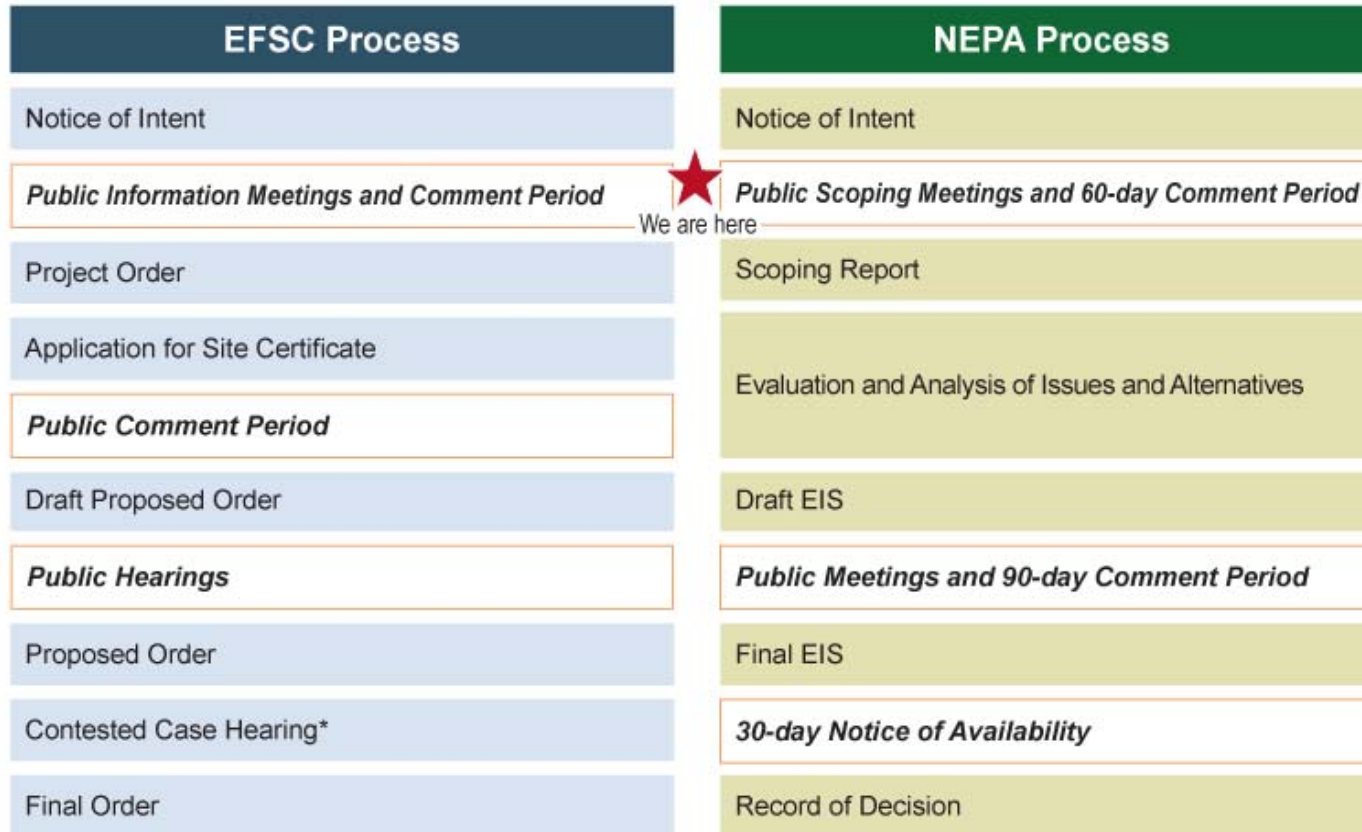
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Agenda

- Project Overview
- Application Review Processes
- Ways to Participate
- Question and Answer Session

Navigating the State and Federal Permitting Processes



We are here

Orange/white boxes indicate public participation opportunities.

*Anyone who commented on the Draft Proposed Order can participate in the Contested Case Hearing.

Siting Energy Facilities in Oregon

- Proposed energy facility developers must apply to the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) for an energy facility site certificate in Oregon
- Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council
 - Seven-member citizen board
 - Makes policy and adopts administrative rules
 - Approves or denies site certificates

Energy Facility Site Certificate

- The Site Certificate:
 - Is a binding contract with multiple conditions
 - Combines state and local requirements into a single decision
 - Applies to all lands within Oregon, except for lands managed by tribal governments
 - Sets the requirements for the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the facility.

Steps to a Site Certificate

- Notice of Intent
 - Preliminary Application
 - Complete Application
 - Draft Proposed Order
 - Proposed Order
 - Contested Case proceeding
 - Council Decision

The NOI and Project Order

- ODOE reviews all of the comments submitted on the Notice of Intent
- We then identify the rules and regulations that apply to the facility and issues of concern brought up during the comment process
- ODOE then issues a Project Order that tells Idaho Power what it must address in its application for site certificate

EFSC Siting Standards

- Some of the siting standards that apply to a transmission line include:
 - Land use
 - Fish and wildlife habitat
 - Threatened and endangered species
 - Effects on public services (fire, police, etc.)
 - Scenic resources
 - Retirement and financial assurance
 - Need for the facility

How is the Decision Made?

- ODOE and EFSC review the site certificate application using:
 - EFSC siting standards
 - Public and agency comments
 - Applicable state and local regulations
- If the proposed project can meet the EFSC standards, or can meet standards with mitigation, the project will be approved

Federal Permitting

- Idaho Power has submitted and/or will submit applications for the project to cross federal lands managed by:
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
 - U.S. Department of Navy
 - Bureau of Reclamation
- These permit requests triggered the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process

What is NEPA?

- Federal law requiring agencies to:
 - Disclose the environmental effects of their decisions
 - Inform and involve the public in the decision-making process
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a major component of NEPA
 - Documents the environmental effects of the proposed actions and alternatives

NEPA – Roles and Responsibilities

- BLM is the lead federal agency responsible for coordinating the NEPA process and producing the EIS
- USFS, ODOE and other federal, state and local agencies are cooperating agencies
 - Cooperating agencies have jurisdiction/expertise related to the project and assist the BLM with the NEPA analysis

How will the EIS be used?

- The federal agencies will use the EIS analysis and other application requirements to either approve or deny the permit applications
- Analysis will include both private and public lands; however federal authorization applies only to the lands they manage

Navigating the State and Federal Permitting Processes

EFSC Process	NEPA Process
Notice of Intent	Notice of Intent
<i>Public Information Meetings and Comment Period</i>	<i>Public Scoping Meetings and 60-day Comment Period</i>
Project Order	Scoping Report
Application for Site Certificate	Evaluation and Analysis of Issues and Alternatives
<i>Public Comment Period</i>	Draft EIS
Draft Proposed Order	<i>Public Meetings and 90-day Comment Period</i>
<i>Public Hearings</i>	Final EIS
Proposed Order	<i>30-day Notice of Availability</i>
Contested Case Hearing*	Record of Decision
Final Order	



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How to Submit Written Comments

- BLM and ODOE are sharing all comments, which are also shared with Idaho Power
- Submit your written comments via the project website, mail, e-mail and/or fax
- Submit your comments by September 27, 2010



Please Submit Specific Comments

- Comments are most useful when they are specific and relate to NEPA issue areas and/or to EFSC's siting standards

Examples:

- *I don't want this project.* Needs to be more specific.
- *I don't want this project built here because it may impact my agricultural operations.* This comment helps BLM/ODOE understand the issue of concern. Include your property address so we know the issue location.



What Happens Next?

ODOE

- Review new comments
- Issue Project Order
- Idaho Power submits the Application for Site Certificate

Federal Agencies

- Review and summarize new and previous comments in Revised Scoping Report
- Work with cooperating agencies
- Begin issues/alternatives analysis and develop Draft EIS

How You Can Help!

- Tonight and during Scoping Period:
 - Attend the open house portion to learn more
 - Ask questions
 - Submit written comments
- Throughout the project:
 - Participate in future public meetings and comment periods
 - Review project documents
 - Ask questions
 - Invite BLM/ODOE to attend your group's meetings
 - Stay informed: www.boardmantohemingway.com