

APPENDIX J

Criteria, Standards, and Factors Utilized to Develop Transmission Route

Appendix J describes the criteria, standards, and factors used to develop the transmission line route connecting the generation plant proposed by Starbuck Power Company, L.L.C. (a division of PPL Global) and the Lower Monumental Substation. The transmission line will be constructed, owned, and operated by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and is not under the jurisdiction of the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC). Although BPA has not developed the final design and engineering plans for the transmission line, the following preliminary conclusions have been made:

- The transmission line will be a new 500-kilovolt (kV) line.
- The route will run approximately 16 miles, parallel to an existing BPA transmission line.
- Along most of its route, the new transmission line will be located approximately 1,200 feet to the north of the existing BPA transmission line. This distance provides a region of safety by ensuring that if either transmission line were to fall, the other line would not be knocked down as well.

BPA's final transmission line route will be designed to avoid impacts to three types of areas, as follows:

- Cultural Resources – archeological artifacts discovered near the generation plant site
- Land Use – various land parcels in the area belong to private landowners and to the Washington Department of Natural Resources
- Natural Resources – drainage areas and habitat for sensitive species

The Applicant's consultant, CH2M HILL, will conduct an environmental impact assessment of the transmission line, and BPA will use this information (along with BPA's information on the criteria, standards, and factors used to develop the route) in preparing portions of the State Environmental Protection Act/National Environmental Protection Act (SEPA/NEPA) environmental impact statement (EIS) for the project. The SEPA/NEPA EIS will include detailed discussion of the issues listed above, as well as the following:

- A figure illustrating the transmission line route
- Engineering and design features (such as tower type, span width, locations)
- BPA's *Starbuck Generation Project System Facility Study Report*
- Identification of industry criteria associated with route selection (federal, state, and industry standards)