



East Fork Frontier Neighborhood Association

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BPA considers eastern route for high-voltage line (Excerpt The Columbian, July 13, 2010)

"Responding to criticism from Clark County homeowners, the Bonneville Power Administration is **considering** a new plan to run a proposed high-voltage transmission line through less-populated areas to the east. BPA has yet to disclose the specific location for this new eastern alternative route, however. A Bonneville official said Tuesday morning that BPA is planning to release a revised map, which would include the new eastern segment, in August. "We're **considering revising** the most easterly route to minimize impacts to families," said Mark Korsness, BPA's project manager.

The proposal is for the first major upgrade to the transmission system in Southwest Washington in four decades. **The prospect of 500-kilovolt power lines, strung across towers as tall as 15-story buildings, has galvanized thousands of Clark County residents who have rallied to urge Bonneville to find another way.**"

BPA officials say the line, which will connect new substations in Castle Rock and Troutdale, Ore., is necessary because the existing regional grid has become dangerously congested. **However, some area residents contend that the line upgrade wouldn't be necessary were it not for new demands by energy companies outside the region to push electrons between Canada and California.**

U.S. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., sent a letter Tuesday to BPA administrator Steve Wright calling on Bonneville to identify a path **"that impacts the least number of people in Southwest Washington as possible."**

Bonneville has fielded thousands of complaints from neighbors worried **about the health effects of an electromagnetic field generated by a line radiating roughly twice as much energy as existing BPA transmission lines crisscrossing the county.** Also, the visual prospect of a new power line strung along towers as tall as 150 feet has generated a backlash among neighbors.

Neighbors have pressed BPA officials to consider alternative routes through largely forested land on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, farther east through mostly state and federal timberland, or underground. The agency expects this summer to narrow relatively wide alternative corridors to more narrowly defined routes where the lines might actually run. **A final decision on the project, estimated to cost \$342 million, is currently planned for 2012.**

Alert : Eastern route not a done deal

"It was our goal to have the eastern route added for consideration but make no mistake it is not a done deal. We must continue working just as hard to make sure BPA selects the eastern route. We know line 9 and 25 would be easier and cheaper for BPA and if we slow down or become silent, BPA will have the towers and lines up in a heartbeat in populated areas. If you have not become involved in your opposition to the lines and towers, now is the time as we can't possible do this by ourselves. As Michele tells me, this is a marathon and not a sprint-it will be two years before the final decision is made and we can't possible keep up the current pace we have been devoting to this project for another two years."

"July 22, 2010, Michele and I had a private one hour and 15 minute meeting with Steve Wright, BPA's CEO/Administrator and the final decision maker on the I-5 Corridor project. When we say he is the final decision maker, it is not a title, he will make the final decision. Mr. Wright told us the eastern route "is on the table", but can't say at this time which route will be selected. He does not currently have a number one and number two choice. He said when the Draft EIS comes out, "It could put down a preferred alternative, but we just don't know yet-it may show various routes." He wanted to be clear that a "Preferred alternative"(preferred route) does not mean that will be the final selection. It will be telling the public that is what looks best to BPA at that point and they will put it out for public comment. Mr. Wright discussed the additional \$30 to \$60 million additional dollars the eastern route will cost and said it was a factor he had to include in his decision but is not the primary factor. (Don't forget if you e mail Mr. Wright, they spend \$850 million dollars every single year on fish and wildlife so they can spend \$30 to \$60 million dollars one time only on the citizens of SW Washington). We were told BPA will not drop any lines at this time. We asked if they would cross to Oregon at Bonneville and he said "probably not" because the route would be just too long and that "we would have to cross over into the Gorge scenic area and that is federal protected lands". Mr. Wright said "Camas is the route that's going to make that (the project) happen." We asked if BPA would consider going underground when they arrived at the populated areas in Camas and he said no because of the cost and it is more difficult if repair in the lines are needed. We presented Mr. Wright with the homeowners' letters recently written (about 50 letters) and the 1,385 petitions. We also told Mr. Wright of the despair and turmoil the threat of the towers and lines has caused in people's lives and sighted some specific cases. We told him what has

happened to property values and the difficulty of selling homes. Mr. Wright said "We are public servants and input matters. We want to know and understand the impact." "We are weighing a lot of factors including: Human health and safety and the quality of life." "The eastern route is on the table, but we can't say at this time which way this will go." The exact location of the eastern route including maps will be released sometime in August. "

Erna Sarasohn
Citizens Against the Towers

BPA Public Meeting Notice – July 27th

Please join Citizens Against the Towers on July 27, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Clark Public Utilities, 1200 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, WA 98663. Guest speakers will be Clark County Commissioner Steve Stuart and Cowlitz County Commissioner Axel Swanson.

- The 70 miles of high voltage, 500 kV transmission lines, currently proposed by Bonneville Power Administration from Castle rock, WA to Troutdale, OR. are not needed for SW Washington. The proposed new towers (15 stories tall & higher) pose serious health hazards and need to be located in East County, away from heavily populated areas.

For more information log on to www.NoWayBPA.com or www.StopTowersNow.com.

La Center to host American Veterans Traveling Tribute -

The Veterans Memorial Traveling Tribute will commence with a parade into the City on August 4th at 2:15. The parade is expected to involve hundreds in the motorcade that escorts the wall into La Center from the Ridgefield weigh station where the escorts will gather to come into town.

Please bring your American flag and help line the street into town all the way to the city park. This will help welcome and honor the various military, law enforcement, fire, safety and volunteers involved with the event as they parade into town with the wall for set up at the park.

La Center is the only place the memorial wall will appear in Washington State, so let's turn out in force to show our respect and appreciation to our Military Veterans.

Schedule for Veterans Tribute

(Updates available at www.lacenterhonorsvets.info/)

Wednesday, August 4

11:00-2:00p ~ Escort Staging at Scales
2:15-2:30p ~ Arrival at City Park
3:00-9:00p ~ Wall Set-up
~ Speakers
~ Volunteer Meeting

Thursday, August 5

8:00a ~ Posting of Colors
1:00p ~ Goldstar Mothers Wreaths
Dusk ~ Candlelight Vigil

Friday, August 6

~ *Law Enforcement Ceremony* ~
1:00p ~ Posting of Colors
~ National Anthem
~ Invocation
~ Welcome
~ Guest Speakers
~ Roll Call
~ Taps
~ 21 Gun Salute
~ Benediction

Saturday, August 7

~ *American Veterans Ceremony* ~
12:00p ~ Posting of Colors
~ National Anthem
~ Invocation
~ Welcome
~ Guest Speakers
~ Roll Call
~ Taps
~ Benediction
Dusk ~ Candlelight Vigil

Sunday, August 8

~ Sunday Service ~
10:00a ~ Post of Colors
~ National Anthem
~ Invocation
~ Ecumenical Service
~ Faith Based Music
~ Closing Remarks
~ Benediction
~ Music/Entertainment
2:00p ~ Freedom Ride
5:00p ~ Disassemble Exhibit

KUDZU – a plant to know

A year ago on an auto trip through Mississippi and parts of Missouri we saw acres of the countryside covered with the horribly invasive Kudzu plant. Kudzu is a legume, a member of the pea family, and like its kin it moves nitrogen from the air into the soil. There, microbes turn it into nitrous oxide – a pollutant found in auto exhaust. In the air, chemical reactions turn nitrous oxide into ozone (giving smog that brownish look). The invasive vine that has taken over more than 67 million acres of the U.S., does more than just hog real estate. Kudzu is so widespread and fast-growing say researchers at Columbia University, that areas with a lot of kudzu – mostly in the Southeastern U.S. – have twice the amount of nitrous oxide in the air. Using a computer model, researchers estimated that kudzu can lead to a 35 percent increase in the number of days that ozone levels exceed EPA safe limits

On the other hand, for centuries, the Japanese have used the plant to make paper and fabric and the

roots to make a cooking starch said to aid the digestive system. Recently scientists at the University of North Carolina have derived compounds from the kudzu plant that could help alcoholics reduce the desire to drink. Considered an herb in China, a findings reported in the May 2005 issue of *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* showed that moderately heavy drinkers who took a daily dose of kudzu extract in capsule form for 1 week consumed significantly less beer than did those on placebo. "Alcohol consumption was almost cut in half." Additionally the Japanese have been feeding it to their cows on their dairy farms for years (it has a higher protein content than alfalfa, have developed recipes for kudzu jelly, syrup, french-fried kudzu, quiche, and kudzu blossom relish."

With the south in such dire financial straits perhaps this could spawn a new industry and unemployed locals could harvest it much the way blueberries are harvested here.



BEWARE OF INTERNET SCAMS

Every day, American consumers receive offers that just sound too good to be true. In the past, these offers came through the mail or by telephone. Now the con artists and swindlers have found a new avenue to pitch their frauds — the Internet. The on-line scammers know no national borders or boundaries; they respect no investigative jurisdictions. But, as with all scammers, they have one objective — to separate you from your money!

An interesting point about fraud is that it is a crime in which you decide on whether to participate. Hanging up the phone or not responding to shady mailings or emails makes it difficult for the scammer to commit fraud. But con artists are very persuasive, using all types of excuses, explanations, and offers to lead you — and your money — away from common sense.

The www.lookstoogoodtobetrue.com website was developed to arm you with information so you don't fall victim to these Internet scam artists. Education, good judgment, and a healthy dose of skepticism are

the best defenses against becoming a victim. Remember, if it looks too good to be true, it probably is! For everything you need to know about Internet scams visit the above website.

SAFETY TIP WHILE TRAVELING

Hotel/Motel Scam - This is kind of scary if only because of how simple it is.

You arrive at your hotel and check in at the front desk. When checking in, you give the front desk your credit card (for all the charges for your room). You get to your room and settle in.

Someone calls the front desk and asked for (example) Room 620 (which happens to be your room). Your phone rings in your room. You answer and the person on the other end says the following, 'This is the front desk. When checking in, we came cross a problem with your charge card information. Please re-read me your credit card number and verify the last 3 digits numbers at the reverse side of your charge card.'

Not thinking anything you might give this person your information, since the call seems to come from the front desk. But actually, it is a scam of someone calling from outside the hotel/front desk. They ask for a random room number. Then, ask you for credit card information and address information. Sounding so professional that you do think you are talking to the front desk.

If you ever encounter this problem on your vacation, tell the caller that you will be down at the front desk to clear up any problems... Then, go to the front desk and ask if there was a problem. If there was none, inform the manager of the hotel that someone called to scam you of your credit card information acting like a front desk employee.

This was sent by someone who has been duped.....and is still clearing up the mess....

ANYONE traveling should be aware of this one!

X-Treme Tape – for quick emergency fixes

X-treme Tape won't melt to 500F., and remains flexible to -60F. It can provide a quick fix for a dripping drainpipe, ruptured radiator hose or gushing garden hose in seconds.

Originally developed for the military, silicone based X-Treme Tape is the money saving solution to all your repair problems and will be an essential for your tool box. It's self-fusing and requires no adhesive since it only bonds to itself. It stretches to 3 times its length, conforms to irregular shapes easily, withstands extreme heat and cold, UV rays, acids and fuels. Once wrapped over itself, it forms a bond immediately and is

permanently fused in 24 hours. All rolls are 1" wide except FatBoy which is 1-1/2" wide. Made in USA

This product is available from www.DuluthTrading.com or call 800-505-8888.

**THE AMERICAN
VETERANS
TRAVELING TRIBUTE
coming to La Center
August 4-8, 2010**

**an event dedicated to
CAPTAIN HARLEY H.
HALL
(an American Hero)**



Don't be taken in by snake-oil promotions

Excerpt from the *Kiplinger's Retirement Report*, April 2010

Be careful buying medicine online. Some sites sell drugs that are counterfeit, expired or not properly stored. Use online pharmacies accredited by the national Association of Boards of Pharmacy (www.nabp.net).

Don't be taken by Web sites or e-mails promising a "scientific breakthrough" for memory loss, insomnia, impotency and other ailments. The Food and Drug Administration warns that many of these products are unsafe. For tips on evaluating online medical information go to www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/protectYourself

National Organization for Rare Disorders

NORD, the National Organization for Rare Disorders provides a lifesaver for those with rare diseases (more than 6,000 serious illnesses are considered rare than they affect more than 25 million Americans. NORD was founded to assist this enormous but neglected population of ill people. The organization doesn't diagnose illnesses, but it directs people with rare disorders to facilities and associations they don't know exist. People can contact NORD at 800-999-NORD or online at www.rarediseases.org.

From *Dr. Donohue* (the *Columbian*, May 2010)

DO YOU HAVE A STORY FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

If you have a story of interest to our neighborhood association, please contact us. We'd very much like to hear from you.

Also, if you know of a neighbor who isn't getting the newsletter and would like to receive it, please send us their email address. If they are not on e-mail, please make a copy of the newsletter to share with them.

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The information and views expressed herein are solely those of the neighborhood association and not of Clark County government or the Public Information and Outreach Office