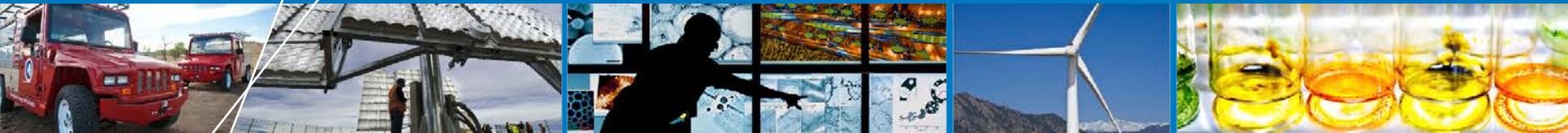


Transmission Permitting and Interconnection Process

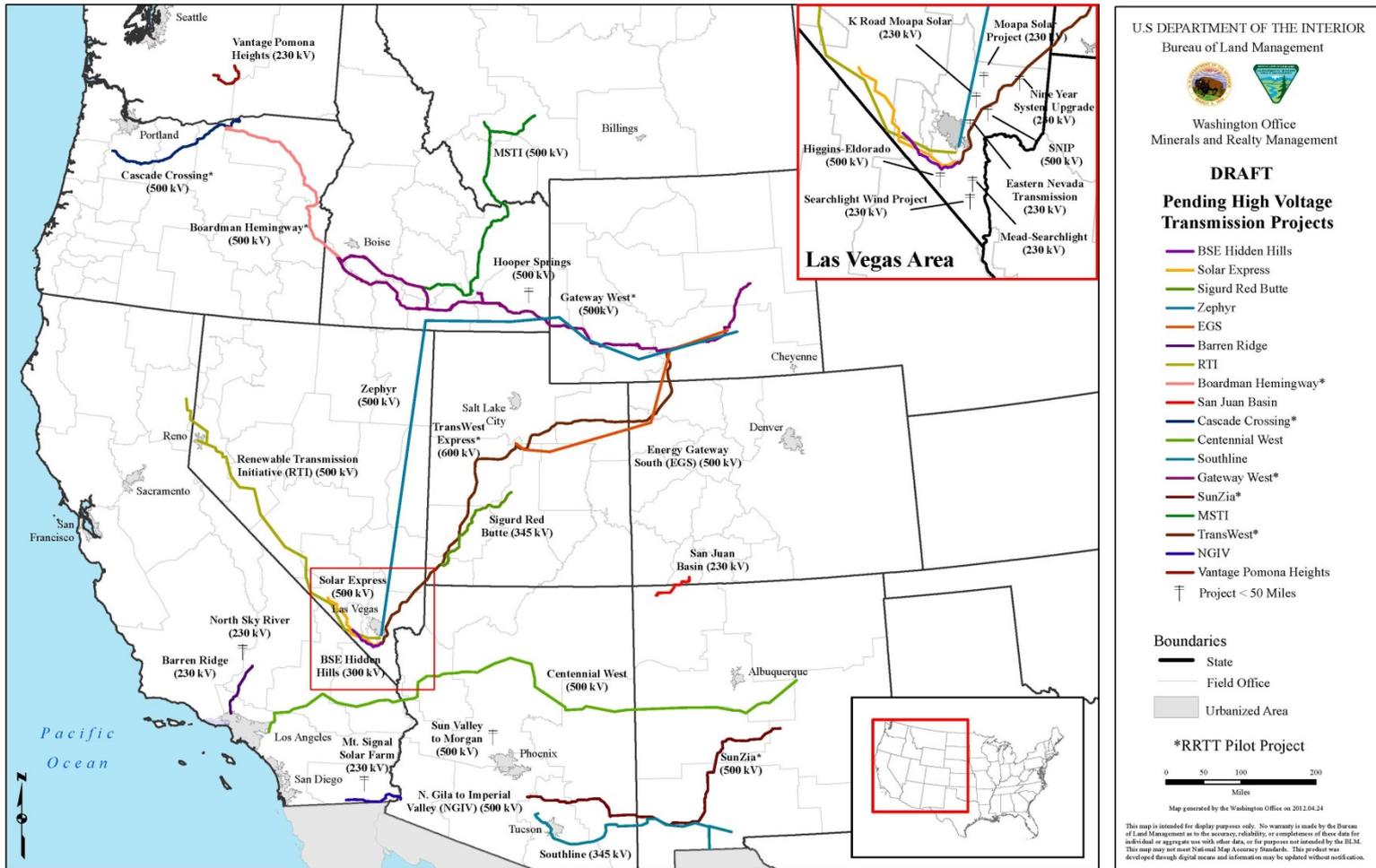


*BLM Transmission Training
Webinar Series*

Webinar 5

June 19, 2013

MAP Pending High Voltage Lines



A Road Map to Transmission Interconnections in the Western US

June 19, 2013

Presented by

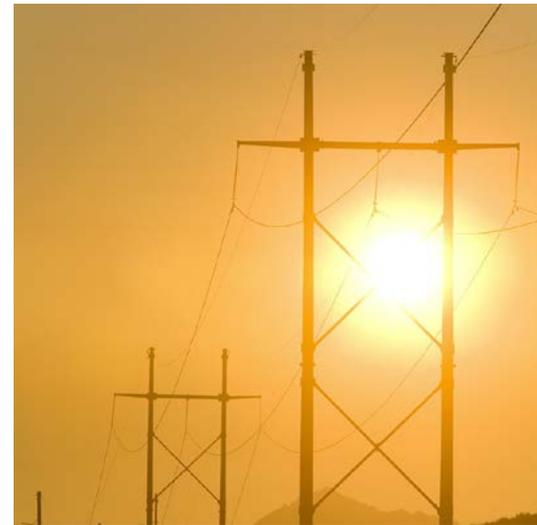
Edward P Weber, Sr. Technical Advisor

Today's Topics

- Introduction and Remarks
- Studies required (environmental/technical)
- Cost allocation models
- Typical process followed by RE developers
- Use of eminent domain and private easements
- Permitting challenges and processes with state/local/tribal governments
- FERC Order 1000 process

Utility Study Requirements

- Prescriptive process detailed in Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) Large Generator Interconnection Procedures (LGIP)
 - Varies a bit, but must meet FERC Rules
- <http://www.westtrans.net/participants.html>
- Transmission Service is separate of Interconnection
- Two Kinds of Transmission Service – Network/PT
- Must be Made through OASIS



Process Overview

- Initial Contact by RE Developer
- Submit Application for Interconnection
 - Large or Small ? Less than 20 MW
 - LGI or SGI Process Different - Fee Required
- Conduct Feasibility Study
 - Off Ramp
- Conduct System Impact Study
 - Off Ramp
- Conduct Facilities Study
 - Off Ramp
- Begin Environmental Process
- Begin Land Acquisition for Project(s)



Required Information

- Single Line Diagram
- Geographic Map
- List of Proposed Facilities
 - Generator Nameplate
 - Transformer, Breakers, Controls
 - Communications and Metering
- Description of Route, Size
- Tx Service Arrangements
- PPA ?



Process Timeline

- Pre-Study Activities -- Scoping
- Feasibility Study Agreement
 - 15 Days to Offer, 30 Days to Accept
 - 60 Days to Complete Study*
- System Impact Study
 - 15 Days to Offer, 30 Days to Accept
 - 60 Days to Complete Study
- Facilities Study – Same as Above
 - Advance of Funds to Begin Env.
- Connected Action ?



Process Timeline

- Initial Review Can Begin With Feasibility Study
- Environmental Study Offer -- 15 and 30 Day
- CX, EA, EIS -- 6 to 24 months
- Interconnection Agreement
 - 60 Days or more if Negotiation Required
 - Who Pays for What Facilities ??
- Long Lead Time Equipment
 - Transformers Are 18-24 Months
 - Turbine Generators 12 – 18 Months
- Design and Construction Alternatives
 - New Substation May Be 24 Months
- Average Time 36 Months !!
 - SIS-3, Fac-3, Env-9, Const-18



Environmental Review

- Categorical Exclusion
 - 6-9 months, \$50K Deposit
- Environmental Assessment
 - 9-12 months, \$200K
- Environmental Impact Statement
 - 12-24 months, \$500K
 - Depends on Facility Study
- Lead Federal Agency?



Environmental Permits

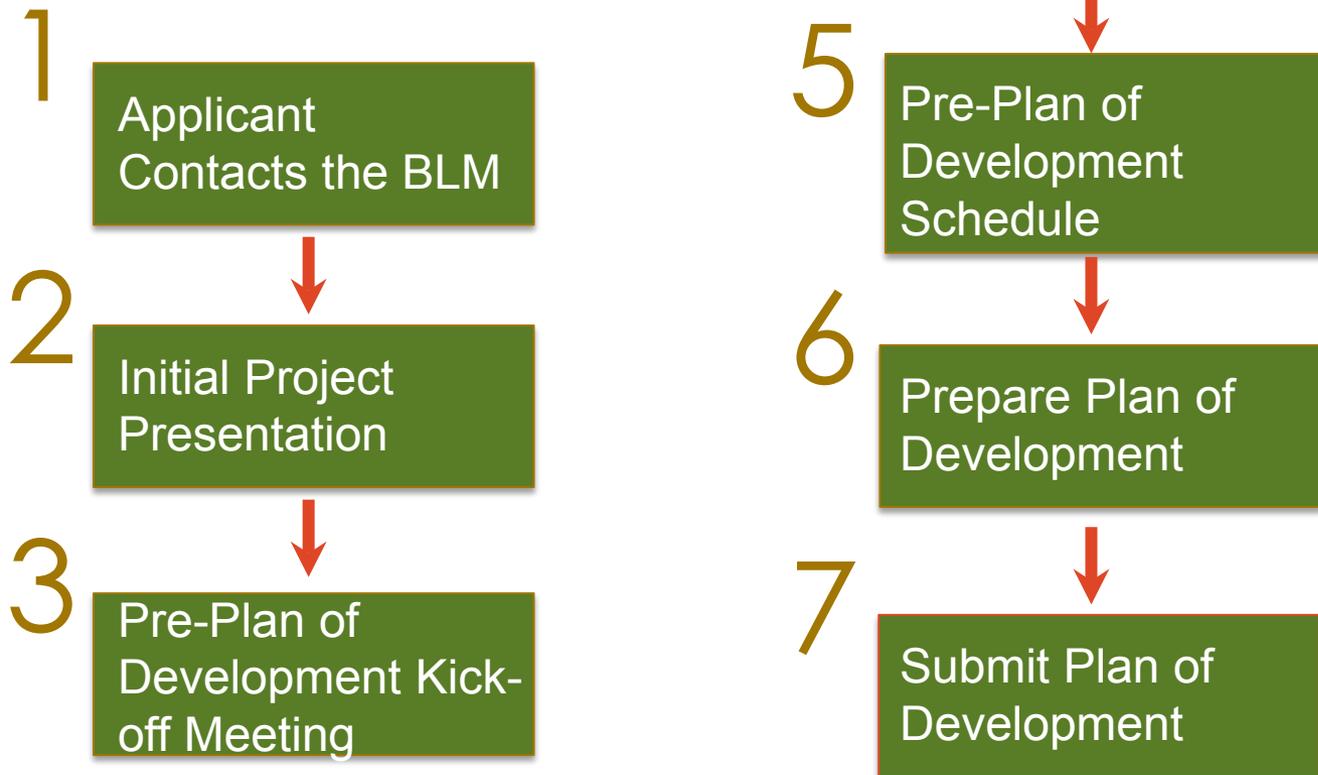
Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation and Biological Opinion	Required for potential direct or indirect impacts to federally listed species and/or associated habitats
Section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Notification	Required for stormwater management during construction
Section 402 NPDES Notification	Required for stormwater management during operation
Section 106 Review & Native American Consultation	Required to address impacts on Native American or cultural resources
Region 3 Project Review	Wildlife and habitat consultation for disturbance on BLM-managed land
Implementation of terms and conditions of the Biological Opinion	Potential impacts on common and special-status wildlife species (document compliance with the terms and conditions of the Biological Opinion)
Consent for Alteration of Protected Species	Required for taking any wildlife classified as protected.
Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program Major Source Permit	Required to consolidate potential air quality impacts of a proposed major project.
General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities (Notice of Intent & General Permit)	Construction activities disturbing more than 1 acre
Operating Permit to Construct	States may requires fugitive dust to be controlled.
Surface Area Disturbance / Dust Mitigation Control Plan	Required for a surface area disturbance is greater then 20 acres
Sand and Gravel Processing Plant	Required for construction/operation of new Asphaltic Concrete Plants, Concrete Batch Plants, and Sand & Gravel Processing Plants in Lincoln County (NRS) 445B.155
Concurrence Letter or Letter of Approval to Construct.	Need permit to operate the water system upon satisfaction of the requirements set forth in NRS 445A.885 to 445A.915, inclusive, and the requirements set forth in the regulations adopted by the Commission.

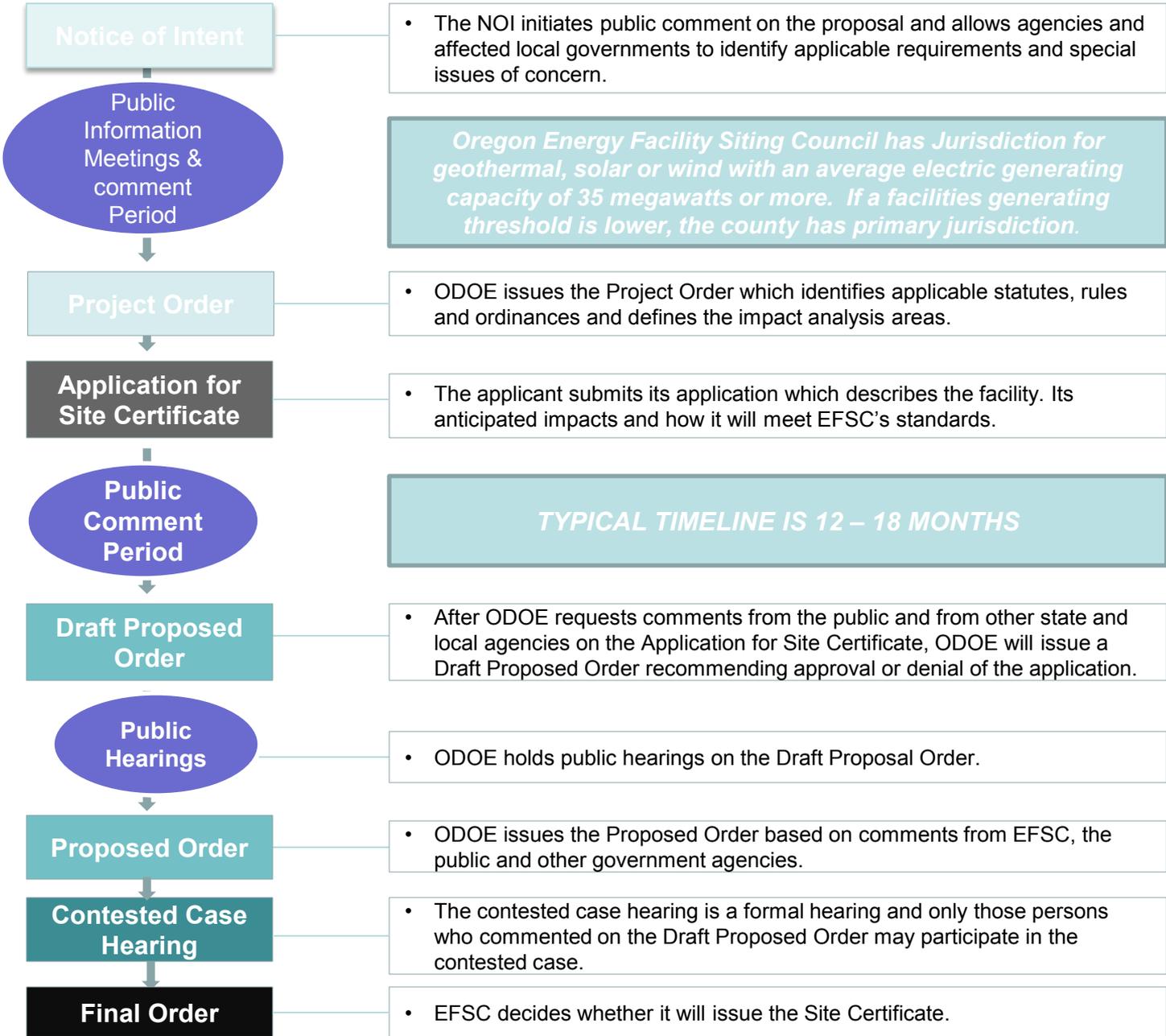
Environmental Permits

Temporary Discharge Permit	Required for discharge to surface waters; for all purposes except working in waterways; maximum of 180 days
Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Required for impacts on water quality caused by discharges to a water body by construction activities
General Stormwater Discharge Permit	Required for stormwater discharge associated with construction activities disturbing at least one acre
Water Right Permit	Required for the issuance of water rights
Utility Environmental Protection Act	Required for the construction of a utility facility
Hazardous Materials Permit or Roving Permit	Required for storage of flammable and combustible liquids (includes fuel storage areas and fuel depot used more than 30 days).
Local Fire Safety Compliance Certification	Building and operation fire safety
Local Flood Damage Prevention Permit	Certification of flood zone location
Local Building Division	Construction of facilities

7-Step Permitting Process

Improves permitting efficiency and agency coordination.



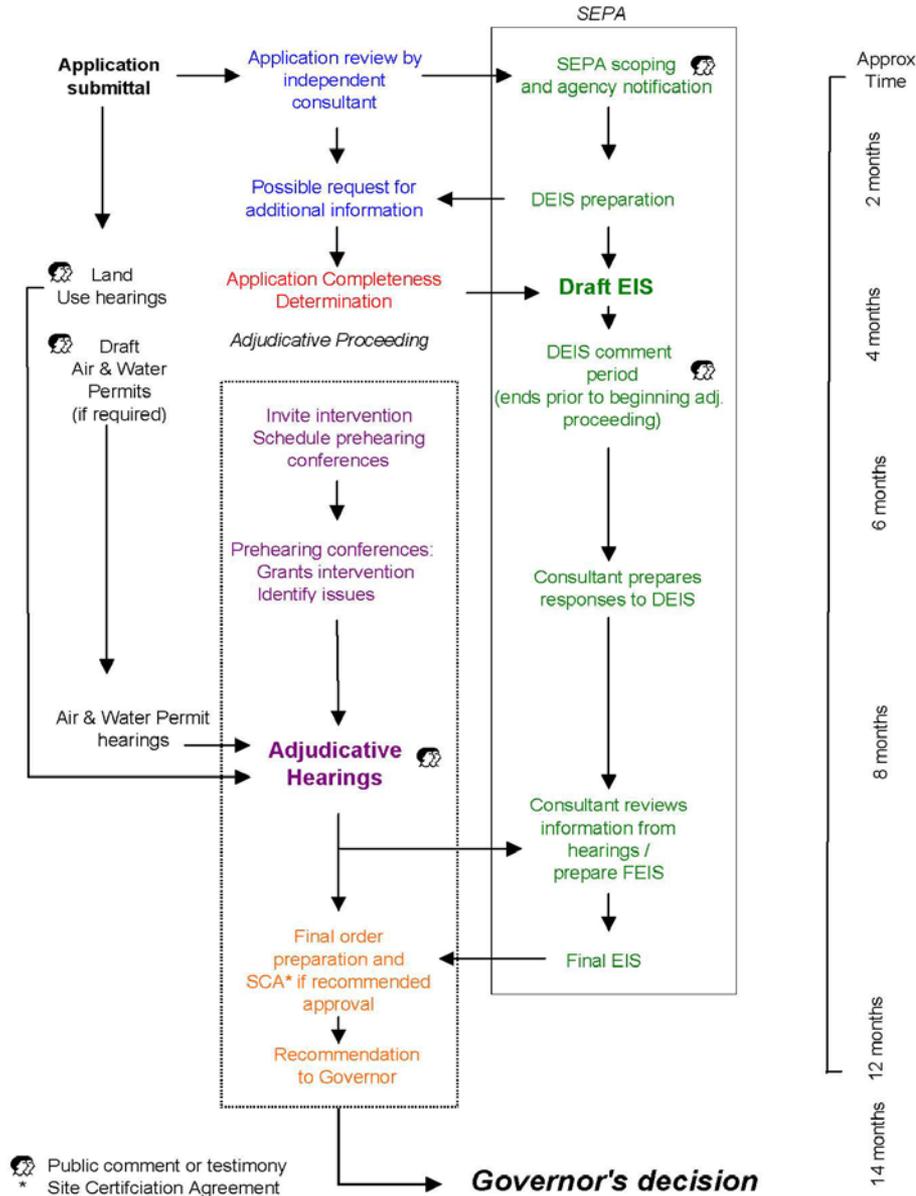




Washington State

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

GENERALIZED SITING PROCESS



The Washington Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSEC) process is voluntary for wind projects. If an applicant opts out of the EFSEF process, the county has primary jurisdiction. SEPA is still required.

W
A
E
F
S
C
P
R
O
C
E
S
S

Federal Agencies Involved

- Dept Interior
 - BLM, BIA, USFS, FWS
- Dept Energy
 - WAPA, BPA
- Dept of State
 - Border Crossings
- Dept Army
 - COE



State Agencies Involved

- Department of Environmental Quality
- Set Policies for NEPA Compliance
- Public Service Commission
- Office of State Lands
- Grant Certificate of Public Need

- Stakeholder Groups
- Public Involvement -- Hearings
- FERC Order 1000



FERC Order 1000

- Four Major Principles
- Transmission Providers **MUST** Engage in Regional Planning Process
 - RE Projects Must Also Follow Process
 - Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Projects
- Non-Incumbent Provider Requirements
- Cost Allocation Methodology
- Compliance Reports Required

Thank you for your time!

QUESTIONS??

This Concludes The Continuing Education Program

Edward.Weber@hdrinc.com



Together We Are Better

Kim Berns, Division Chief
Division of Lands, Realty & Cadastral Survey
BLM – Washington Office
kmberns@blm.gov
202-912-7350

Lucas Lucero, Rights-of-Way Branch Chief
BLM - Washington Office
llucero@blm.gov
202-912-7342