

NEWS FROM WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

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PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT FOR PROPOSED ALBANY COUNTY WIND PROJECT

Public invited to provide comments during environmental review phase

LAKEWOOD, Colo. —Western Area Power Administration will host open-house public scoping meetings Jan. 26 and 27 to share information about the proposed Hermosa West Wind Energy Project. The informal meetings will provide the public and interested parties with the opportunity to learn about the environmental impact statement process, meet one-on-one with project team members, ask questions, and make comments.

Meeting information

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 3-8 p.m., **Cheyenne, Wyo.** ½ Little America Hotel and Resort, 2800 West Lincolnway, 307-775-8400

Wednesday, Jan. 27, 3-8 p.m., **Laramie, Wyo.** ½ Hilton Garden Inn and UW Conference Center, 2229 East Grand Avenue, 307-745-5500

The proposed Hermosa West Wind Energy Project would consist of up to 200 wind turbine generators with a combined total generating capacity of up to 300 megawatts located within an 11,125-acre site in southeastern Wyoming, near the towns of Tie Siding and Hermosa. In addition to the turbines, other proposed Project facilities would include all-weather access roads, underground power collection lines linking turbines to the Project substation, the Project substation, a short high-voltage transmission line linking the Project substation to Western's transmission system and other facilities. The proposed Project would be located on private and state land; no Federally managed land would be affected.

Shell WindEnergy Inc. has proposed to construct the Hermosa West Wind Energy Project and has applied for permission to interconnect the proposed Project with an existing 345-kilovolt transmission line near Tie Siding, Wyoming, in Albany County. The transmission line is owned and operated by Western Area Power Administration, an agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. As a Federal agency, Western has the responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act to prepare an environmental impact statement. Western will be the lead Federal agency for preparing the EIS.

We need your ideas

Public comments will help Western define issues and resources to be addressed in the draft EIS. Comments can be provided in person at the public meetings, or by mail, e-mail or phone via the

contact information below. To ensure consideration as we develop the EIS, Western should receive your comments by March 1.

For more information, visit the project Web site at <http://www.wapa.gov/transmission/hermosawest.htm>.

Contact information

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Western Area Power Administration annually markets and transmits more than 10,000 megawatts of clean, renewable power from hydroelectric powerplants owned and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 15 western and central states. It is part of the Department of Energy.

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