



Oregon

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To: Energy Facility Siting Council

From: Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor; Wally Adams, Senior Technical Expert,
Haley Aldrich

Date: October 10, 2025

Subject: Agenda Item F (Information Item): Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line
Project Quarterly Construction Update for the October 23-24, 2025 EFSC
Meeting

Background

The second amended site certificate for the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (B2H) was issued by the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) to Idaho Power Company (IPC) on August 23, 2024. The approved facility includes approximately 273 miles of 500 kV transmission line, plus two substations, communications stations, access roads, multi-use areas and pulling and tensioning sites.

Quarterly Update

Construction Status

Pre-construction compliance requirements were substantially completed in June 2025, and IPC notified the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) that the ORS 469.300(6) \$250,000 threshold for start of construction had been met on July 10, 2025. Construction activities have been conducted in three of the five counties included in the Oregon portion of the project: Malheur, Baker and Morrow. No construction has occurred in Umatilla or Union counties to date. The construction contractor is Quanta Infrastructure Solutions Group (QISG).

The primary construction activities to date have been the clearing of land, building new or improving existing access roads, and establishing foundation pads. As of the date of this memo, approximately 8% of the access roads and 15% of the foundation pads are complete. Civil and foundation work are expected to be completed by the end of 2026, with mechanical completion of the transmission line by the end of 2027.

Compliance Overview

The certificate holder, IPC, is responsible for complying with all conditions of their EFSC site certificate. As is typical for a large energy facility under construction, they have engaged the services of an environmental consultant, Eocene, to monitor compliance during construction. In the parlance of the project, they are known as the Environmental Inspection Contractor, or EIC.

The first, best line of defense to ensure compliance with the site certificate are the Eocene monitors. They have full-time staff in the field every day, patrolling the construction right-of-way (ROW). Their presence in the field allows them to observe what is happening in real-time and to work with IPC to immediately correct any issues that arise.

In addition to the EIC, there is also a Construction Inspection Contractor (CIC) who is under contract by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Their role on the federal side is analogous to Haley & Aldrich' relationship with ODOE. Similar to the EIC, the CIC has full-time staff in the field to monitor compliance with federal laws, including but not limited to Section 106 of the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, eagle protections, noxious weed management, and fire protection. The CIC for this project is Power Engineers.

Eocene summarizes their monitoring activities in a weekly report that is shared with ODOE. The report provides an overview of monitoring activities, construction progress, and documents any compliance issues that were noted during the reporting period.

Every Wednesday, there is a Teams call which includes personnel from Eocene, IPC, QISG, Haley & Aldrich and ODOE. A set agenda for the call includes construction status, a review of monitoring activities, revegetation and noxious weed management, incidents and inspections. The weekly call provides us an opportunity to review any issues that were noted from the weekly reports in more detail and to follow up on action items.

Site Inspections

Field inspections of the construction ROW are being conducted approximately once per month while construction is in progress. Most inspections are being performed by Anderson Perry, an engineering firm with a base of operations in La Grande, Oregon.

Personnel from Anderson Perry have conducted three site inspections to date. The first two inspections focused on a broad range of conditions from the site certificate: erosion and sediment control, flagging, noxious weed control, etc. The third inspection was focused primarily on compliance with the Agricultural Lands Assessment and Mitigation Plan. Each inspection began with a desk audit in the Malheur Receiving Yard, followed by field observations at construction locations in Malheur County.

The next site inspection will be conducted jointly by Haley & Aldrich and Anderson Perry staff the week of October 20, and is planned to cover activities in Morrow, Malheur, and (time permitting) Baker counties.