

**From:** [corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov](mailto:corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov)  
**To:** [Corridoreisarchives;](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Comment 80095  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2005 8:51:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [PSE Comments on DOE PEIS 80095.doc](#)

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Thank you for your comment, J. Chris Reese.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is 80095. Please refer to the tracking number in all correspondence relating to this comment.

Comment Date: November 28, 2005 08:51:17PM CDT

Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Scoping Comment: 80095

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Attachment: C:\3rd Fake Drive\PSE Comments on DOE PEIS.doc

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at:  
[corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov](mailto:corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov) or call the Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS  
Webmaster at (630)252-6182.



28 November 2005

Ms. Julia Souder  
U.S. Department of Energy,  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability,  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW.,  
Washington, DC 20585;

Dear Ms. Souder:

Puget Sound Energy, Inc (PSE) respectfully submits the following comments in response to the Department of Energy's September 28, 2005 Notice of Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. PSE welcomes the opportunity to comment on DOE's initiative to designate energy corridors on Federal land in the western States. We believe that this is a first step towards building the strategic transmission reinforcements that are and may be required in the future to enhance system reliability and robust inter-regional trade in the WECC.

PSE is an investor-owned electric and natural gas utility with retail customers located primarily in the western part of the State of Washington. We own, control, and purchase long term electric power and gas supplies from resources located in western and central Washington, Montana, Oregon, and California. Because of load growth and an interest to replace expiring power purchase contracts, PSE is actively engaged in the process of acquiring new electric power resources. Many of the lower cost power resources are located in areas remote from the Puget Sound region. PSE also owns or controls electric transmission capacity in Washington, Montana, and Oregon and has long term transmission contracts with regional providers.

PSE believes that the western electricity grid is currently in need of further reinforcement and expansion so that new low cost resources may be used by load serving entities similar to PSE. As a result, we have participated in sub-regional planning committees such as the Northwest Transmission Assessment Committee (NTAC), which is an open forum to address forward looking planning and development for the NWPP area transmission system. NTAC has brought together a cross section of experts who are interested in reinforcing the western grid and PSE is very hopeful that the dialogue and studies facilitated by NTAC will ultimately yield common insights into what strategic transmission reinforcements should be built in the future.

The NTAC initiatives have identified many potential electric transmission corridors that PSE thinks are particularly relevant to your work. However, in the letter PSE has selected the following list of corridors located with Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana that may be of specific interest to PSE.

## Specific Energy Corridors of Interest to PSE.

### 1. Northwest to Canada

To add additional capacity between the Northwest and Canada and address parallel reliability concerns, three corridors need to be explored.

- a) Eastern Corridor – Cross BC/WA border near Nelway, BC (north of Metaline Falls, WA). A new corridor although in parallel with existing 230 kV lines
- b) Central Corridor – A new corridor that crosses the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel near Oroville, WA, which extends from Grand Coulee (WA) to South Okanagan (BC)
- c) Western Corridor – Cross the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel near Blaine, WA (An existing corridor)

### 2. Monroe-Echo Lake

A parallel line to this existing line is needed. Due to reliability concerns and suburban growth in the area, corridors to the east of the existing corridor will need to be explored.

### 3. Raver-Paul

A parallel line to the existing line is needed. The existing line severely limits new resources located north of the Raver substation from serving loads located south of the Raver substation.

### 3. Cross Cascades North

PSE believes that there may need for additional rights-of-way in either Stevens Pass or Snoqualmie pass. Existing rights-of-way may be expanded as an alternative but separation of parallel line is a concern.

### 4. Montana-Northwest

To add capacity to this path, the existing Garrison-Hot Springs-Bell ROW could be used or upgrades to the existing Path 18 from Montana into Idaho (this latter path would also require Northwest to Idaho additions as mentioned below.

### 5. Bell-Ashe

There are some existing rights-of-way that could accommodate but also a direct route between these stations on new corridor might be preferred.

### 6. Northwest to Idaho

To add capacity to this path, the existing Path 18 from Montana into Idaho or line from McNary to Brownlee (and farther into Idaho) could be used. A new corridor from Klamath Falls, OR through Lakeview and Fields into Idaho should also be considered.

### 7. Paul-Troutdale

Anticipated route is a new corridor from Centralia, Washington south to Vancouver, then east to Camas and south to Troutdale, Oregon

8. Wautoma-South to Big Eddy/John Day

To add capacity to this path, several existing rights of way could be upgraded or a new corridor developed.

9. Cross Cascades South

To add capacity to this path, several existing rights of way could be upgraded or develop a new Summer Lake-Alvey corridor.

10. McNary-John Day

To add capacity to this path, several existing rights of way could be upgraded or a new corridor developed south of the existing one.

13. Libby-Bell

To add capacity to this path, several existing rights of way could be upgraded or develop a new corridor in the vicinity of the existing one.

14. Sedro Woolley to Sammamish

This corridor is primarily located on private property. However, several miles of the corridor are under the jurisdiction of the Corp of Engineers. The corridor provides essential transmission capacity for load service and regional transfer.

15. Snoqualmie Pass

Unlike all of the previous corridors which were electric there is need of a new gas corridor within the Snoqualmie Pass area to provide gas service to customers located in Kittitas County, Washington.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed scope of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions please contact me by phone at 425-462-3055 or by email at [Chris.Reese@PSE.COM](mailto:Chris.Reese@PSE.COM).

Sincerely,

J. Chris Reese  
System Planning Manager  
Puget Sound Energy, Inc.