60-Day Notice: As required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), the BLM published the 60-day notice in the Federal Register on February 3, 2010 (75 FR 5624) soliciting comments from the public and other interested parties. The comment period closed on April 5, 2010. The BLM did not receive any comments from the public in response to this notice, and did not receive any unsolicited comments.

The BLM requests comments on the following subjects:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the BLM, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of the BLM’s estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Please send comments to the addresses listed under ADDRESSES. Please refer to OMB control number 1004–0137 in your correspondence. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Jean Sonneman,
Acting Information Collection Clearance Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Forest Service

Revised Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Boardman to Hemingway 500 Kilovolt Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Oregon and Possible Land Use Plan Amendments

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior; and U.S. Forest Service, Agriculture.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is a revision of a September 12, 2008, Notice of Intent [73 FR 52944]. In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Vale District Office, Vale, Oregon, and the U.S. Forest Service (FS), Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Baker City, Oregon, intend to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) Project, and by this notice are announcing the re-initiation of the NEPA scoping process to solicit public comments. This notice is in response to substantive changes in the proposed B2H Project route as submitted by Idaho Power Company (IPC) in its amended right-of-way (ROW) application to the BLM and special use application to the FS. The proposed B2H route is about 300 miles long and would cross Federal, State, and private lands in 5 counties in Oregon and Idaho. Approximately 93 miles (31 percent) of the lands the transmission line would cross are administered by Federal agencies, including the BLM, the FS, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Department of Defense.

DATES: This notice re-initiates the comment period for scoping on the B2H Project EIS. The comment period will be open until September 27, 2010. Scoping meetings are being considered in the following locations: Baker City, John Day, Burns, Ontario, Boardman, La Grande, and Pendleton, Oregon; and Marsing, Idaho. The dates and locations of the scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance.
through local media, newspapers, and the B2H Project Web site at: http://www.boardmantohemingway.com. Comments must be received prior to the close of the comment period or 15 days after the last scoping meeting, whichever is later, to be considered in the B2H Project EIS analysis. Relevant comments submitted during the previous B2H Project comment period will also be considered. Additional opportunities for public participation will be provided upon publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:
- E-mail: comment@boardmantohemingway.com;
- Web site: http://www.boardmantohemingway.com; or
- In person at a scoping meeting.

The amended B2H ROW and special-use application is available for inspection at the Web site listed above or may be examined at:
- BLM, Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon 97918;
- FS, Whitman Ranger District, 3285 11th Street, Baker City, Oregon 97814; and
- FS, La Grande Ranger District, 3502 Highway 30, La Grande, Oregon 97850.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or to have your name added to or removed from the B2H Project mailing list, visit the Web site or e-mail a request to the address identified in the ADDRESSES section above, or mail your request to the BLM, B2H Project, P.O. Box 655, Vale, Oregon 97918.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The B2H Project is a single-circuit 500-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line proposed for construction by IPC between the existing Hemingway substation, located near Melba in Owyhee County, Idaho, and the planned Grassland substation adjacent to the Boardman Generating Plant, located near Boardman in Morrow County, Oregon. The B2H Project will deliver up to 1,500 megawatts of additional energy capacity to meet load requirements in Oregon and Idaho, provide service to wholesale customers, maintain reliable electric service, and relieve existing congestion and capacity constraints.

On December 19, 2007, IPC submitted an application for a ROW grant to construct, operate, and maintain a single-circuit 500-kV transmission line across BLM-administered lands. On March 25, 2008, IPC also submitted an application for a special use authorization to the FS to cross FS-administered lands. In April 2010, IPC resubmitted these applications to the BLM and FS because of proposed route changes.

The proposed B2H route is approximately 300 miles long and will cross Federal, State, and private lands in 6 counties in Oregon and Idaho. The route generally parallels existing interstate and other existing overhead and underground utilities and roadways, and makes use of existing utility corridors on Federal lands. Approximately 31 percent (93 miles) of the route is located on public lands. The project is designed to utilize steel lattice-type structures, about 150 feet high, with average spans between towers of 1,200 feet. Access roads would be 14 to 20 feet wide. Additional temporary work space would also be required during construction. The requested ROW width is 250 feet. A map is available for review at the Web site identified above.

The propose B2H project NEPA scoping process is to identify issues and alternatives that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis and guide the process for developing the project EIS. At this time, the proposed B2H route has been identified for analysis in the EIS. The BLM and FS have identified the following preliminary issues: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, Oregon National Historic Trail, visual resources, Threatened and Endangered Species, wildlife, impacts to critical wildlife habitat, use of existing utility corridors, exclusive farm use, and lands with wilderness characteristics. The Hemingway substation will not be analyzed in this EIS, since it is currently under construction and will operate regardless of the outcome of the B2H project. The proposed Grassland substation is part of the proposed B2H project and will be analyzed in this EIS.

directs the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to expedite applications to construct or modify electricity transmission and distribution facilities within utility corridors.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.


Donald N. Gonzalez,
Vale District Manager, BLM.

Steven A. Ellis,
Forest Supervisor, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, FS.

Our final rule (71 FR 43926) establishing regulations that allow us to authorize the nonlethal, incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus during year-round oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska. The rule established subpart I in part 18 of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and is effective until August 2, 2011. The rule prescribed a process under which we issue letters of authorization (LOAs) to applicants conducting activities as described under the provisions of the regulations. In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA and our regulations at 50 CFR part 18, subpart J, we issued an LOA to each of the following companies in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska:

**Beaufort Sea, Letters of Authorization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Date issued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooks Range Petroleum Corp.</td>
<td>Exploration</td>
<td>North Shore and Sak River Exploration Programs</td>
<td>05 January 2010.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsh Creek, LLC</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Drew Point Test Well #1</td>
<td>03 February 2010.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savant Alaska, LLC</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Badami Unit Redevelopment Project</td>
<td>29 January 2010.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shell Offshore, Inc</td>
<td>Exploration</td>
<td>Beaufort Open Water Marine Survey Program</td>
<td>19 May 2010.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On June 11, 2008, we published in the **Federal Register** a final rule (73 FR 33212) establishing regulations that allow us to authorize the nonlethal, incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus during year-round oil and gas industry exploration activities in the Chukchi Sea and adjacent western coast of Alaska. The rule established subpart I of 50 CFR part 18 and is effective until June 11, 2013. The rule prescribed a process under which we issue LOAs to applicants conducting activities as described under the provisions of the regulations. In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA and our regulations at 50 CFR part 18, subpart J, we issued an LOA to the following company in the Chukchi Sea:

**Chukchi Sea, Letters of Authorization**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Company</th>
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