DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  

Environmental Management Advisory Board Meeting  

AGENCY: Department of Energy.  

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.  

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the Federal Register.  

DATES: Thursday, May 31, 2012; 9 a.m.—5 p.m.  

ADDRESSES: Hotel on The Falls, 475 River Parkway, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402.  


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Board: The purpose of EMAB is to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) with advice and recommendations on corporate issues confronting the EM program. EMAB contributes to the effective operation of the program by providing individual citizens and representatives of interested groups an opportunity to present their views on issues facing EM and by helping to secure consensus recommendations on those issues.  

Tentative Agenda Topics  

• EM Update  

• Updates on EMAB Fiscal Year 2012 Work Plan Assignments  

• Tank Waste Strategy Update  

• Citizens’ Advisory Board Update  

• Subcommittee Updates  

Public Participation: EMAB welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Kristen G. Ellis at least seven days in advance of the meeting at the phone number or email address listed above. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to the agenda should contact Kristen G. Ellis at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received for five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Individuals wishing to make public comments will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.  

Minutes: Minutes will be available by writing or calling Kristen G. Ellis at the address or phone number listed above. Minutes will also be available at the following Web site: http://www.em.doe.gov/stakepages/emabmeetings.aspx.  

Issued at Washington, DC on April 27, 2012.  

LaTanya R. Butler,  
Acting Deputy Committee Management Officer.  

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  

Bonneville Power Administration; Montana-to-Washington Transmission System Upgrade Project EIS  

AGENCY: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).  

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and notice of floodplain and wetlands involvement.  

SUMMARY: BPA intends to prepare an EIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) on several proposed upgrades to its existing transmission system. The proposed upgrades would consist of a combination of reinforcements of five existing BPA substations, placement of new conductor on sections of an existing BPA transmission line, and the addition of a new series compensation substation along an existing BPA transmission line corridor. The substation reinforcements would occur at Garrison and Hot Springs substations in Montana, Dworshak and Hatwai substations in Idaho, and Bell Substation in Washington. The line reconductoring would occur on four sections, totaling 12 miles, of the Dworshak-Taft No. 1 500-kilovolt (kV) line in Montana and Idaho. The series compensation substation would be added along the Garrison-Taft 500-kV line corridor in Montana.  

The proposed upgrades are needed to respond to requests for long-term firm transmission service that BPA has received for the West of Garrison and West of Hatwai transmission paths. These upgrades would increase the firm east-to-west transfer capability from BPA’s Garrison Substation in Western Montana to load centers west of the Cascades and to market hubs serving the entire Northwest power market.  

With this Notice of Intent, BPA is initiating the public scoping process for the EIS. BPA is requesting comments about potential environmental impacts that it should consider as it prepares the EIS for the proposed project.  

In accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review requirements, BPA will prepare a floodplain and wetlands assessment to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within any affected floodplains and wetlands. The assessment will be included in the EIS.  

DATES: Written scoping comments are due no later than June 18, 2012, and can be submitted at the addresses below. Verbal and written comments may also