



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 1, 2024

SUBJECT: Pacific Power Future Transmission Line Project

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Information only.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Pacific Power is in the early planning stage of a transmission line project which may affect properties in Deschutes County. The proposal is for approximately 180 miles of new high-voltage transmission line connecting existing and proposed substations in a five-county area (Deschutes, Crook, Klamath, Lake, and Harney). The proposed transmission line would most likely cross federal lands (Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service), state land, and privately owned lands.

Pacific Power has embarked on a routing study to identify a preferred route for the transmission line as well as alternative routes. As part of this study, community outreach will be conducted to share information and invite input from affected property owners and the general public. The routing study is expected to be completed in early 2025, followed by the permitting process which will include an Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for right-of-way across federal lands, among other required permits. The Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) is the permitting authority. Other required federal, state and local permits are not required by EFSC.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None

ATTENDANCE:

John Aniello, Project Manager, Pacific Power
Cindy Smith, Senior Project Manager, POWER Engineers