



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 24, 2025

SUBJECT: Pacific Power Future Transmission Line Project Update

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Information only.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Pacific Power is planning a 500-kV transmission line project ("Blueprint South") which is expected to 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 embarked on a study to identify preliminary alternative routes for the transmission line. Community outreach will be conducted to share information on the identified possible routes and invite input from affected property owners and the general public. Upon the selection of a preferred route, a multi-year permitting process will commence—this 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