

Exhibit DD Specific Standards for Transmission Lines

Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project



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Amended Preliminary Application for Site Certificate

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| AC | alternating current |
| Amended Project Order | First Amended Project Order, Regarding Statutes, Administrative Rules and Other Requirements Applicable to the Proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (December 22, 2014) |
| BPA | Bonneville Power Administration |
| CAFE | Corona and Field Effects |
| EFSC or Council | Energy Facility Siting Council |
| EPRI | Electric Power Research Institute |
| IPC | Idaho Power Company |
| kV | kilovolt |
| kV/m | kilovolt per meter |
| m | meter |
| mA | milliampere |
| NESC | National Electrical Safety Code |
| OAR | Oregon Administrative Rules |
| Project | Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project |
| ROW | right-of-way |

1 **Exhibit DD**
2 **Specific Standards for Transmission Lines**

3 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

4 Exhibit DD demonstrates that the transmission lines associated with the Boardman to
5 Hemingway Transmission Line Project (Project) will be designed, constructed, and operated to
6 ensure alternating current (AC) electric fields do not exceed 9 kilovolts (kV) per meter (m) at one
7 meter above the ground surface in areas accessible to the public. Exhibit DD also shows that
8 the induced currents resulting from the Project transmission lines and related or supporting
9 facilities will be as low as reasonably achievable.

10 **2.0 APPLICABLE RULES AND AMENDED PROJECT ORDER**
11 **PROVISIONS**

12 **2.1 Specific Standards for Transmission Lines**

13 The Specific Standards for Transmission Lines under Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 345-
14 024-0090 provide Idaho Power Company (IPC) must demonstrate it:

15 *(1) Can design, construct and operate the proposed transmission line so that alternating*
16 *current electric fields do not exceed 9 kV per meter at one meter above the ground*
17 *surface in areas accessible to the public;*

18 *(2) Can design, construct and operate the proposed transmission line so that induced*
19 *currents resulting from the transmission line and related or supporting facilities will be as*
20 *low as reasonably achievable.*

21 **2.2 Site Certificate Application Requirements**

22 OAR 345-021-0010(1)(dd) provides Exhibit DD must include information showing IPC can
23 demonstrate compliance with the Specific Standards for Transmission Lines:

24 *If the proposed facility is a facility for which the Council has adopted specific standards,*
25 *information about the facility providing evidence to support findings by the Council as*
26 *required by the following rules: . . . (C) For any transmission line under Council*
27 *jurisdiction, OAR 345-024-0090.*

28 **2.3 Amended Project Order Provisions**

29 The Amended Project Order states IPC must demonstrate compliance with the Specific
30 Standards for Transmission Lines:

31 *The Council applies specific standards for transmission lines under its jurisdiction in*
32 *OAR 345-024-0090. The applicant should provide analysis regarding compliance with*
33 *OAR 345-024-0090.*

34 (Amended Project Order, Section III(dd))

1 3.0 ANALYSIS

2 3.1 Analysis Area

3 The Amended Project Order does not identify an analysis area for Exhibit DD considerations.
4 However, for purposes of analyzing AC electric fields, IPC used the right-of-way (ROW) for the
5 analysis area.

6 3.2 Methods

7 The methods IPC used to model expected electric fields and induced current for the Project are
8 the same as described in Exhibit AA, Section 2.1, and are summarized here.

9 The electric field, magnetic field, and audible noise that may be produced by the proposed
10 transmission line was predicted using EMFWorkstation: ENVIRO (Version 3.52), a Windows-
11 based model developed by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) (EPRI 1997). The
12 ENVIRO program uses the algorithms developed by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA),
13 which were originally described in the Corona and Field Effects (CAFE) program from BPA
14 (BPA n.d.). The inputs to the ENVIRO model are line voltage, load flow (current), and the
15 physical dimensions of the line (number of phases, conductor diameter, spacing, height, and
16 subconductor configuration).

17 3.3 Alternating Current Electric Fields

18 OAR 345-024-0090: To issue a site certificate for a facility that includes any transmission line
19 under Council jurisdiction, the Council must find that the applicant: (1) Can design, construct
20 and operate the proposed transmission line so that alternating current electric fields do not
21 exceed 9 kV per meter at one meter above the ground surface in areas accessible to the
22 public;

23 The modeling results (see Attachment AA-1 in Exhibit AA) show that the Project's transmission
24 lines will produce AC electric fields that will be less than 9 kV per meter (kV/m) at 1 meter above
25 the ground throughout the ROW for the Proposed Route and each alternative route, and
26 therefore, the Project will comply with the AC electric field standard. Table DD-1 summarizes
27 the electric field strengths at the peak and edge of the ROW for the different transmission line
28 configurations proposed for the Project. The electric field profiles in Exhibit AA show how the
29 strength of the electric field will vary across the ROW for each transmission line configuration
30 (see Exhibit AA).

31 **Table DD-1. Electric Field Strength for Each Considered Structural Configuration**

| Structure Type | ROW Width (feet) | South/West ROW Edge (kV/m) | Maximum within ROW (kV/m) | North/East ROW Edge (kV/m) |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 500-kV lattice | 250 | 0.8 | 8.9 | 0.8 |
| 500-kV tubular steel H-frame and Y-frame monopole | 250 | 0.9 | 8.8 | 0.9 |
| 230-kV wood H-frame | 125 | 0.8 | 5.0 | 0.8 |
| 138-kV wood H-frame | 100 | 0.5 | 2.3 | 0.5 |

Electric field strength calculated at standard height of one meter above ground surface.
kV/m = kilovolt per meter; ROW = right-of-way

1 The modeling results are based on certain minimum ground clearances. To ensure compliance
 2 with the AC electric field provisions of the Specific Standards for Transmission Lines, IPC
 3 proposes that the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC or Council) include the following
 4 conditions in the site certificate providing that IPC comply with the minimum ground clearances
 5 used in the modeling and that the Project otherwise meet the 9 kV/m standard:

6 ***Siting Standard Condition 1:*** *During construction, the site certificate holder*
 7 *shall take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to*
 8 *electromagnetic fields:*

9 *a. Constructing all aboveground transmission lines at least 200 feet from any*
 10 *residence or other occupied structure, measured from the centerline of the*
 11 *transmission line;*

12 *b. Constructing all aboveground 500-kV transmission lines with a minimum*
 13 *clearance of 34.5 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;*

14 *c. Constructing all aboveground 230-kV transmission lines with a minimum*
 15 *clearance of 20 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;*

16 *d. Constructing all aboveground 138-kV transmission lines with a minimum*
 17 *clearance of 20 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;*

18 *e. In areas where aboveground transmission line will cross an existing*
 19 *transmission line, constructing the transmission line at a height and separation*
 20 *ensuring that alternating current electric fields do not exceed 9-kV per meter at*
 21 *one meter above the ground surface; and*

22

23 **3.4 Induced Currents**

24 OAR 345-024-0090: To issue a site certificate for a facility that includes any transmission line
 25 under Council jurisdiction, the Council must find that the applicant: . . . (2) Can design,
 26 construct and operate the proposed transmission line so that induced currents resulting from
 27 the transmission line and related or supporting facilities will be as low as reasonably
 28 achievable.

29 **3.4.1 Overview of Induced Current, Induced Voltage, and Nuisance Shock**

30 The flow of electricity in a transmission line can induce a small electric charge, or voltage, in
 31 nearby conductive objects. An induced electric charge can flow, or become electric current,
 32 when a path to ground is presented. Induced current can be observed as a continuous flow of
 33 electricity or, under some circumstances, as a sudden discharge, commonly known as a
 34 “nuisance shock.” The most common example of a nuisance shock is when a vehicle, which is
 35 insulated from grounding by its tires, is parked under a transmission line for sufficient time to
 36 build up a charge. A person touching such a charged vehicle could become a conducting path
 37 for the current and can feel a momentary shock if the available electrical charge is sufficient,
 38 generally above 1 milliampere (mA) (Dalziel and Mansfield 1950).

39 The amount of current flow, or the magnitude of the nuisance shock, is determined by the level
 40 of charge that can be induced and the nature (conductivity or impedance) of the path to ground.
 41 Metallic roofs, vehicles, equipment, or wire fences are examples of metallic objects in the
 42 vicinity of the Project in which a small electric charge could be induced. Factors to consider
 43 when assessing the potential hazards and mitigation measures for induced voltage include the
 44 characteristics of nearby objects, and the degree and nature of grounding of those objects.
 45 More conductive materials accumulate greater charge than less conductive materials while
 46 large objects, such as a tractor-trailer, will accumulate a greater charge than smaller objects
 47 such as a pick-up truck (EPRI 2005). A linear object that is parallel to the transmission line

1 would be more greatly affected than one that is perpendicular to the line. An object passing
2 quickly under the transmission line would be minimally affected compared to a stationary object.
3 A grounded or partially grounded object will accumulate charge that could be discharged as a
4 nuisance shock, while continuous current would occur in a grounded object. The total amount of
5 charge that can be induced in a perfectly nongrounded object is limited by the strength of the
6 magnetic field and the nature of the object; after a time, the field and the induced charge in the
7 object will reach equilibrium (steady-state), and the induced charge would stop building.

8 Continuous induced current may occur if a metallic object is partially grounded or grounded
9 some distance from the transmission line. Continuous induced current may occur in linear
10 objects that are parallel to the transmission line, such as some fences, railroads, pipelines,
11 irrigation piping, or other transmission or power distribution lines.

12 **3.4.2 National Electrical Safety Code Provisions Relevant to Induced Current**

13 The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) sets the ground rules for practical safeguarding of
14 persons during the installation, operation, or maintenance of electric supply and communication
15 lines and associated equipment. NESC Rule 234G.3 (NESC 2012) addresses induced current
16 and sets forth a certain standard to ensure the safety and health implications of the same are
17 properly addressed:

18 *[f]or voltages exceeding 98 kV ac to ground, either the clearances shall be increased or*
19 *the electric field, or the effects thereof, shall be reduced by other means, as required, to*
20 *limit the steady-state current due to electrostatic effects to 5 mA, rms, if an ungrounded*
21 *metal fence, building, sign, billboard, chimney, radio or television antenna, tank or other*
22 *installation, or any ungrounded metal attachments thereto, were short-circuited to*
23 *ground.*

24 The 5-mA figure embedded in the NESC rule is a scientifically derived health and safety
25 limitation, intended to eliminate the potential for harmful electric shock. The threshold of
26 perception for current flowing through the human body is approximately 1 mA (Dalziel and
27 Mansfield 1950). If the current is increased sufficiently beyond a person's perception threshold,
28 it can become bothersome and possibly startling. Larger currents can cause the muscles of the
29 arm and hand to involuntarily contract so that a person cannot let go of an electrified object. The
30 value at which 99.5 percent of men, women, and children can still let go of an object is
31 approximately 9, 6, and 5 mA, respectively. To address this safety concern, NESC Rule 234G.3
32 limits the steady-state current due to electrostatic effects to 5 mA; it is a performance standard
33 aimed at limiting the potential charge that could be developed so that a potential nuisance shock
34 would not be harmful to children.

35 The NESC is updated every 5 years. IPC will design, construct, and operate the Project in
36 accordance with the version of the NESC that is most current at the time final engineering of the
37 Project is completed.

38 **3.4.3 Predicted Induced Current**

39 Empirical evidence has yielded a known relationship between short-circuit current and electric
40 field strength for various types and sizes of objects (EPRI, 2005). Based on these known
41 relationships, Table DD-2 indicates the maximum current that could be induced in several types
42 of vehicles and agricultural-related pieces of equipment potentially present in the transmission
43 line ROW.

1 **Table DD-2. Induced Current Factors**

| Object | I_{sc}/E (mA/kV/m) | Maximum Induced Current (mA) ¹ |
|---|----------------------|---|
| Car—L 4.6 m x W 1.78 m x H 1.37 m | 0.088 | 0.78 |
| Pickup Truck—L 5.2 m x W 2.0 m x H 1.7m | 0.10 | 0.89 |
| Large Tractor-Trailer—Total Length 15.75 m Trailer: 12.2 m x W 2.4 m x H 3.7 m | 0.64 | 5.70 |
| Combine—L 9.15 m x W 2.3 m x H 3.5 m | 0.38 | 3.38 |

Source: Table 7-8.2, EPRI AC Transmission Line Reference Book: 200 kV and Above (EPRI 2005).

¹ Maximum induced current calculated for strongest predicted electric field of 8.9 kV/m, associated with the proposed lattice segment.

I_{sc} = short-circuit current

E = AC electric field

m = meter

2 Multiplying the factors listed in Table DD-2 by the transmission line electric field strength yields
3 the short-circuit current expected under conditions expected to produce the greatest magnitude
4 short-circuit currents. The strongest electric field calculated for any of the proposed or
5 alternative line configurations is 8.9 kV/m for the 500-kV lattice structure. The vehicles and
6 equipment listed in Table DD-2 will have short-circuit currents less than the 5-mA current
7 required by the NESC, except for the tractor-semitrailer for which the induced current would be
8 5.7 mA if the entire length of the tractor-semitrailer were in a 8.9 kV/m electric field (e.g., parallel
9 to and directly under the line). Tractor-semitrailers generally will not be anticipated directly under
10 the line where the 8.9 kV/m electric field occurs, except at road crossings where the tractor-
11 semitrailers will not be parallel to the line and will be present only for a short duration while
12 crossing under the line—that being so, the inducible charge under those circumstances likely
13 would be less than 5 mA. At locations where large vehicles are anticipated to occur directly
14 under the transmission line in parallel with the line and for a meaningful period (e.g., parking lots
15 or gas stations), the line design would be altered if necessary, for example by an increase in the
16 height of the line at that location, so that the line complies with the NESC 5-mA safety
17 requirement.

18 The NESC provides industry standards for transmission line design and operation, including
19 standards for ensuring induced currents are as low as reasonably achievable. Accordingly, to
20 ensure compliance with the induced current provisions of the Specific Standards for
21 Transmission Lines, IPC proposes that the Council include the following conditions in the site
22 certificate providing that the Project will be designed consistent with the version of the NESC—
23 including the induced current provisions—most recent as of the time of final Project design:

24 **Siting Standard Condition 1:** *During construction, the site certificate holder*
25 *shall take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to*
26 *electromagnetic fields:*

27 . . .

28 *f. Constructing all aboveground transmission lines in accordance with the*
29 *requirements of the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Safety Code.*

30 In addition to the transmission line, the Project includes the following components and related or
31 supporting facilities: Longhorn Station, communication stations, new access roads, substantially
32 modified existing access roads, temporary multiuse areas, and pulling and tensioning sites. The
33 Longhorn Station and communication stations will be constructed in a manner to minimize
34 induced currents in surrounding facilities, while the access roads, multiuse areas, and pulling

1 and tensioning sites will not include components that will contribute to induced currents or
2 voltages.

3 **3.4.4 Stray Voltage**

4 Stray voltage is not an issue for this Project. Stray voltage is an issue that may occur with lower
5 voltage distribution systems that have unequally loaded phases and an improperly grounded
6 neutral wire. Stray voltage can also be an issue that occurs with the customer's electrical
7 system beyond the local utility company's meter. The issue of stray voltage related to the
8 Project is eliminated by the balanced three-phase configuration of the proposed transmission
9 lines.

10 Though stray voltage is an unrelated issue to this Project, more information on this topic is
11 available from the following sources:

- 12 • <http://www.idahopower.com/AboutUs/Safety/default.cfm>
- 13 • <http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/Safety/StrayVoltageBooklet.pdf>
- 14 • http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/Safety/Stray_Voltage_Brochure.pdf
- 15 • <http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/AboutUs/PlanningForFuture/ProjectNews/AgriOps.pdf>

16 **3.4.5 Landowner Education Regarding Overhead Transmission Lines**

17 IPC has a robust program intended to educate landowners on the risks associated with the
18 transmission lines on their property. The education process begins with the ROW acquisition
19 process. As easements are acquired, each landowner is provided with an information packet
20 containing several IPC pamphlets regarding hazards around transmission lines and power
21 quality issues that might be experienced. IPC also maintains a Power Quality Group that is
22 available free of charge to assist the public with any issues associated with electric fields,
23 magnetic fields, audible noise, radio noise, stray voltage, and equipment interference.
24 Information is available on these topics at:

- 25 • <http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/Safety/safetyBrochure.pdf>
- 26 • <http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/Safety/EMFbrochure.pdf>

27 To ensure affected landowners are provided IPC's educational information, IPC proposes that
28 the Council include the following condition in the site certificate:

29 ***Siting Standard Condition 2: During operation, the site certificate holder shall***
30 ***take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to***
31 ***electromagnetic fields:***

32 ***a. Providing to landowners a map of overhead transmission lines on their***
33 ***property and advising landowners of possible health and safety risks from***
34 ***induced currents caused by electric and magnetic fields;***

35

36 **3.4.6 Program to Prevent Induced Current and Nuisance Shock**

37 Nuisance shocks and induced currents can be reduced or eliminated by proper grounding of
38 metallic objects near the transmission line, shielding them from the electric field, or positioning
39 the transmission line farther from the objects. Grounding an object will reduce the induced
40 potential to essentially zero and eliminate the object as a source of shocks or currents.

41 During final engineering and construction of the Project, IPC will identify all wire fences,
42 pipelines, irrigation lines, metal roofs, and other objects nearby the ROW in which a current
43 could be induced. All such objects will be properly grounded within or as close as practicable to

1 the ROW in order to prevent induced current and nuisance shocks. IPC proposes that the
2 Council include the following conditions in the site certificate providing for the same:

3 **Siting Standard Condition 2:** During operation, the site certificate holder shall
4 take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to
5 electromagnetic fields:

6 . . .

7 b. Developing and implementing a program that provides reasonable assurance
8 that all fences, gates, cattle guards, trailers, irrigation systems, or other objects or
9 structures of a permanent nature that could become inadvertently charged with
10 electricity are grounded or bonded throughout the life of the line; and

11 c. Implementing a safety protocol to ensure adherence to NESC grounding
12 requirements.

13 4.0 IDAHO POWER'S PROPOSED SITE CERTIFICATE CONDITIONS

14 IPC proposes the following site certificate conditions to ensure compliance with the relevant
15 EFSC standards:

16 During Construction

17
18 **Siting Standard Condition 1:** During construction, the site certificate holder
19 shall take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to
20 electromagnetic fields:

21 a. Constructing all aboveground transmission lines at least 200 feet from any
22 residence or other occupied structure, measured from the centerline of the
23 transmission line;

24 b. Constructing all aboveground 500-kV transmission lines with a minimum
25 clearance of 34.5 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;

26 c. Constructing all aboveground 230-kV transmission lines with a minimum
27 clearance of 20 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;

28 d. Constructing all aboveground 138-kV transmission lines with a minimum
29 clearance of 20 feet from the ground at normal operating conditions;

30 e. In areas where aboveground transmission line will cross an existing
31 transmission line, constructing the transmission line at a height and separation
32 ensuring that alternating current electric fields do not exceed 9-kV per meter at
33 one meter above the ground surface; and

34 f. Constructing all aboveground transmission lines in accordance with the
35 requirements of the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Safety Code.

36 37 During Operation

38
39 **Siting Standard Condition 2:** During operation, the site certificate holder shall
40 take the following steps to reduce or manage human exposure to
41 electromagnetic fields:

42 a. Providing to landowners a map of overhead transmission lines on their
43 property and advising landowners of possible health and safety risks from
44 induced currents caused by electric and magnetic fields;

45 b. Implementing a program that provides reasonable assurance that all fences,
46 gates, cattle guards, trailers, irrigation systems, or other objects or structures of a
47 permanent nature that could become inadvertently charged with electricity are
48 grounded or bonded throughout the life of the line; and

1 c. Implementing a safety protocol to ensure adherence to NESC grounding
2 requirements.

3 **5.0 CONCLUSION**

4 Exhibit DD, together with the data provided in Exhibit AA, demonstrates that the Project's AC
5 electric fields will not exceed 9 kV/m at 1 meter above the ground surface in areas accessible to
6 the public; and that induced currents resulting from the transmission line and related or
7 supporting facilities will be as low as reasonably achievable.

8 **6.0 COMPLIANCE CROSS-REFERENCES**

9 Table DD-3 identifies the location within this application for site certificate of the information
10 responsive to the application submittal requirements of OAR 345-021-0010(1)(dd), the Specific
11 Standards for Transmission Lines at OAR 345-024-0090, and the relevant Amended Project
12 Order provisions.

13 **Table DD-3. Compliance Requirements and Relevant Cross-References**

| Requirement | Location |
|---|--|
| OAR 345-021-0010(1)(dd) | |
| Exhibit DD. If the proposed facility is a facility for which the Council has adopted specific standards, information about the facility providing evidence to support findings by the Council as required by the following rules: . . . | |
| (C) For any transmission line under Council jurisdiction, OAR 345-024-0090. | Exhibit DD, Section 3.3 and Section 3.4 |
| OAR 345-024-0090 | |
| To issue a site certificate for a facility that includes any transmission line under Council jurisdiction, the Council must find that the applicant: | |
| (1) Can design, construct and operate the proposed transmission line so that alternating current electric fields do not exceed 9 kV per meter at one meter above the ground surface in areas accessible to the public; | Exhibit AA, Section 3.5; Exhibit DD, Section 3.3 |
| (2) Can design, construct and operate the proposed transmission line so that induced currents resulting from the transmission line and related or supporting facilities will be as low as reasonably achievable. | Exhibit AA, Section 3.5; Exhibit DD, Section 3.4 |
| Amended Project Order | |
| The Council applies specific standards for transmission lines under its jurisdiction in OAR 345-024-0090. The applicant should provide analysis regarding compliance with OAR 345-024-0090. | Exhibit AA, Section 3.5; Exhibit DD, Section 3.3 and Section 3.4 |

14 **7.0 RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS**

15 Table DD-4 identifies the location within this application of the information responsive to the
16 public comments cited in the Amended Project Order.

1 **Table DD-4. Public Comments**

| Comment | Location |
|---|---|
| Amended Project Order, Section VI(a) | |
| Numerous commenters expressed concern about potential human health impacts of a high voltage transmission line from electromagnetic fields, corona effects, and induced currents. Exhibit AA shall include evidence that the proposed facility can meet the Council standards specific to transmission lines, and include mitigation measures proposed by the applicant to reduce or eliminate threats to human health and safety during construction and operation of the transmission line. | Exhibit AA, Section 3.10; Exhibit DD, Section 3.5 |

2 **8.0 REFERENCES**

- 3 BPA (Bonneville Power Administration). Undated. "Corona and Field Effects" Computer
4 Program – Public Domain Software. Bonneville Power Administration, Vancouver, WA.
- 5 Dalziel, C.F., and T H. Mansfield. 1950. Effects of Frequency on Perception Currents. *AIEE*
6 *Transactions* 69:1162–1168.
- 7 EPRI (Electric Power Research Institute). 1997. EMFWorkstation: ENVIRO (Version 3.52).
8 Windows-based model developed by Electric Power Research Institute.
- 9 EPRI. 2005. AC Transmission Line Reference Book: 200 kV and Above. Third edition. EPRI,
10 Palo Alto, CA. 1011974.
- 11 NESC (National Electric Safety Code). 2012. National Electrical Safety Code. 2012 ed. Institute
12 of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., New York, NY. 287 pages.