

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**505 VAN NESS AVENUE**  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298**



**To:** State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Property Owners & Interested Parties

**From:** Mike Rosauer, Environmental Project Manager

**Subject:** **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (FINAL EIR):**  
**PacifiCorp's Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project,**  
**Southern Portion (A.05-12-011)**  
**SCH No. 2007042080**

**Date:** **October 10, 2007**

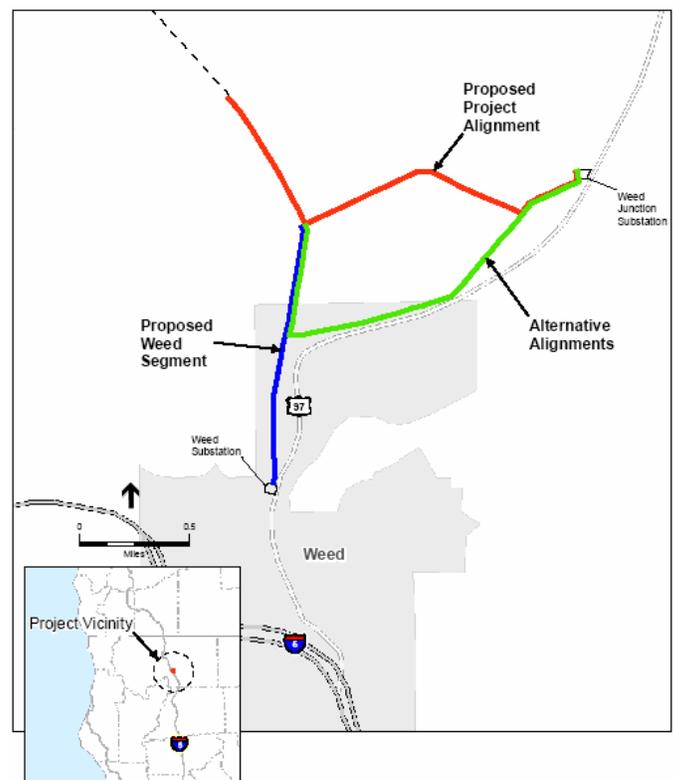
The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for consideration of PacifiCorp's application to construct, operate and maintain the Yreka-Weed Transmission Line Upgrade Project, Southern Portion (A.05-12-011), including the Weed Segment (A.07-01-046). The Final EIR incorporates changes resulting from comments submitted during the Draft EIR comment period (July 31, 2007 through September 14, 2007).

**Description of the Proposed Project and Weed Segment.** PacifiCorp, which currently owns a single-circuit 69kV electric transmission system in the Yreka-Weed area of Siskiyou County, requests authorization to upgrade the existing 69kV transmission line (Line 1) with a new 115kV transmission line within existing right-of-way from Pole 15/44 to Pole 8/45 and to install an additional 1.6 miles of 115kV transmission line within a new right-of-way from Pole 8/45 east to the Weed Junction Substation.

The Weed Segment would include a rebuild of the Weed Substation from 69kV to 115kV and upgrade of approximately 1.5 miles of single-circuit 69kV transmission line to a double-circuit 115kV transmission line from the Weed Substation north to Pole 8/45.

**Alternatives to the Proposed Project and the Environmentally Superior Alternative.** The Draft EIR evaluated alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA. The Draft EIR concluded that the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation B alternative was the Environmentally Superior Alternative. However, in the Final EIR, the description of the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A has been revised to reflect a refinement proposed by the Applicant (PacifiCorp). With this refinement, the conclusion presented in the Final EIR has changed from the Draft EIR: the Mackintosh/ALJ Variation A alternative is now the Environmentally Superior Alternative.

**Contents of the Final EIR.** The Final EIR consists of one volume, presented in four sections plus Appendices. Section 1 contains an introduction to the Final EIR, describing the purpose of the Final EIR and the organization of the document, as well as a list of the



commenters that submitted written comments on the Draft EIR. Section 2 contains the comments on the Draft EIR, including a transcript from the August 28, 2007 public participation hearing, and CPUC's responses to the comments. Section 3 contains text revisions to the Draft EIR, reflecting necessary additions, corrections, and clarifications to the Draft EIR with revised text shown in underline (for insertions) and deleted text shown in ~~strikeout~~ (for deletions). Section 4 contains a list of agencies, organizations, and persons that received the Draft EIR. The Appendices contain the Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Program. A compact disc (CD), located inside the back cover of the Final EIR, contains the published Draft EIR with Appendices.

**CPUC Actions After Final EIR Publication.** There is no comment period following issuance of the Final EIR. The CPUC will determine the adequacy of the Final EIR, and, if adequate, will adopt the document as being compliant with CEQA. If adequate, the CPUC will issue a Decision on the Application, which will be announced and published concurrent with a scheduled CPUC Meeting. After the Commission makes a decision on the Application, a Notice of Determination will be mailed to the State Clearinghouse within 5 days of the Decision. After the Notice of Determination is filed, the 30 day statute of limitations for court challenges begins to run. For further information on the CPUC's decision-making process, please call the CPUC Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074.

If the CPUC approves the Proposed Project or an alternative, the CPUC will implement a Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Program as defined in Appendix A of the Final EIR. This program will ensure that the approved route is constructed as defined, and that all adopted mitigation measures are implemented in order that effects on the environment do not exceed those defined in the Final EIR.

**Availability of Final EIR.** Copies of the Final EIR will be available for public review at the Yreka Branch and Weed Branch of the Siskiyou County Library, and on the project website: <http://www.yreka-weed.com>. This website will be used to post all public documents during the environmental review process and to announce any upcoming public meetings. Hard copies or CD copies of the Final EIR may be requested by telephone at (415) 962-8468 or by e-mail at [yreka-weed@esassoc.com](mailto:yreka-weed@esassoc.com).

**PROJECT INFORMATION REPOSITORIES**

Yreka Branch Library  
719 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Yreka, CA 96097  
(530) 841-4175

Weed Branch Library  
708 South Davis  
Weed, CA 96094  
(530) 938-4769