

**From:** [corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov](mailto:corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov)  
**To:** [Corridoreisarchives;](#)  
**CC:**  
**Subject:** Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Comment 80073  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2005 5:44:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [PWX to DOE - PEIS 28 Nov 2005 80073.pdf](#)

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Thank you for your comment, Gordon Dobson-Mack.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is 80073. Please refer to the tracking number in all correspondence relating to this comment.

Comment Date: November 28, 2005 05:44:04PM CDT

Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Scoping Comment: 80073

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Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Attachment: C:\My Documents\NWPP - NTAC\Western Opportunities\PWX to DOE - PEIS 28 Nov 2005.pdf

Comment Submitted:

Julia,

Please find attached Powerex's letter regarding the PEIS.

Thanks, Gordon

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at:  
[corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov](mailto:corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov) or call the Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS

Webmaster at (630)252-6182.



November 28, 2005

Ms. Julia Souder  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC  
20585

Dear Ms. Souder:

Powerex Corp<sup>1</sup>, ("Powerex") respectfully submits the following comments in response to the Department of Energy's September 28, 2005 Notice of Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. Powerex welcomes the DOE's initiative to designate energy corridors on Federal land in the western States as we believe that this is a necessary first step towards building the strategic transmission reinforcements that are required to enhance system reliability and inter-regional trade in the WECC.

Powerex believes that the western electricity grid is in need of reinforcement. As a result, we have participated in committees such as the Northwest Transmission Assessment Committee (NTAC), which is an open forum to address forward looking planning and development for the NWPP area transmission system. NTAC has brought together a cross section of experts who are interested in reinforcing the western grid and Powerex is very hopeful that the dialogue and studies facilitated by NTAC will ultimately yield common insights into what strategic transmission reinforcements should be built in the future.

One NTAC initiative that we think is particularly relevant to your work is the Canada to Northwest to California study. The purpose of the study is to present a high level comparison of AC and DC transmission options for increasing the transfer capability between Canada and the Pacific Northwest and between the Pacific Northwest and California. While we think it would be important for the PEIS to consider the implications of all options running from the US/Canadian border to the load centers in California, Powerex will focus its comments on some of the AC options.

Several of the AC transmission options under consideration would involve construction of a new 500 kV line in one of three possible corridors that cross the British Columbia - Washington border. We refer to the three routes as the Eastern

<sup>1</sup> Powerex Corp. is a corporation organized under the Company Act of British Columbia, with its principal place of business in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Powerex is the wholly-owned marketing subsidiary of British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("BC Hydro"), a provincial Crown Corporation owned by the Government of British Columbia. Powerex sells power at wholesale in the United States pursuant to market-based rate authority originally granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Powerex sells power from a portfolio of resources in the United States and Canada, including Canadian Entitlement resources made available under the Columbia River Treaty, BC Hydro system surplus resources, and various other power resources acquired from other sellers within the United States and Canada. Powerex also markets power in Canadian provinces other than British Columbia and in Mexico.

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corridor, the Central corridor and the Western corridor. A description of the corridors, their associated points of electrical interconnection, length and status are summarized below:

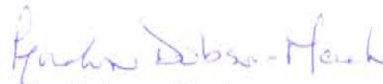
- 1) Eastern Corridor – Cross BC/WA border near Nelway, BC  
(north of Metaline Falls, WA)
  - a. Interconnection Points: Bell substation (WA) to Selkirk substation (BC)
  - b. Length: 110 miles
  - c. Status: New corridor although in parallel with existing 230 kV lines
- 2) Central Corridor – Cross BC/WA border near Oroville, WA
  - a. Interconnection Points: Grand Coulee (WA) to Vasseux Lake (BC)
  - b. Length: 90 miles
  - c. Status: New corridor
- 3) Western Corridor – Cross BC/WA border near Blaine, WA
  - a. Interconnection Points: Custer substation (WA) to Ingledow substation (BC)
  - b. Length: 9 miles
  - c. Status: Existing corridor

Powerex requests that these corridors be included in the set of new energy corridors on federal land for two reasons:

- 1) The Canada to Northwest to California Stage 1 report is not expected before Spring 2006 and subsequently, other studies will likely be required before a preferred corridor for the next 500 kV AC line between BC and the US is identified. Designating all three corridors will preserve the viability of each option while further studies are being conducted. It would be unfortunate to eliminate promising options at this early stage of the process.
- 2) Results of the PEIS could indicate if one corridor is preferred over the others, and this information could only be brought to light if all three corridors were put through the same evaluation process.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed scope of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions please contact me at 604-891-6004.

Yours truly,



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C. Chris Reese, Chair NTAC  
Doug Little, Chair TPAC