

## Open House Summary – Jan. 29 and 30, 2014

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### Meeting purpose

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) hosted two open houses – one on Jan. 29, 2014 at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse in Redmond, and the other on Jan. 30, 2014 at the Renton Pavilion Event Center in Renton. PSE hosted the meeting to provide information and answer questions about plans to build new higher capacity 230 kilovolt transmission lines between an existing substation in Redmond and an existing substation in Renton, as well as construct a new substation in Bellevue.

The meetings were open house format and included identical information both nights. PSE's goal was to:

- Inform the public about the project, which includes project need, purpose and schedule.
- Share the route segments and provide opportunities for comments on the work to
- Explain how PSE will involve the community to get to a preferred route, which includes the Community Advisory Group process and other public involvement opportunities.
- Answer questions and gather feedback.

On Jan. 29, approximately 60 members of the public attended the meeting and on Jan. 30, approximately 90 members of the public attended. During the open houses, attendees submitted their comments to PSE on paper comment forms, electronic comment forms, in person and/or on flip charts.

PSE will share comments with the Community Advisory Group at a meeting on Feb. 12, 2014, and use these comments to further inform the project.

### Summary of questions and input:

#### Jan. 29, 2014 open house

##### Do you have any comments regarding the potential route segments?

- Concerns about reduced property values on north portion of segment B.
- EMF concerns in regard to segment J:
  - What is the EMF output of existing wires?
  - What would the EMF output of new wires be?
  - What is the EMF output from the PSE meter outside my house and is it constant?
- In regard to segment C:
  - Concerns about pipeline safety during construction.
  - Request for shorter poles to minimize view disruption.
  - Concern about transmission noise.
- Opposition to selecting segment L:
  - Concern about reduced property values and city tax revenue that supports schools.
  - Suggestions that building on segment M will have minimal impact on residents there as current home values incorporate existing power lines.
- Suggestions that an alternate route for segment B, specifically described as directly west on 90th to I-405 or using NE 80th Street, would reduce impacts on schools and residents.
- Suggestion that B route seems convoluted and impractical.
- Request to choose segment C instead of B to preserve Bridle Trails Park and quality of life for residents nearby.

What should PSE and the advisory group consider while discussing route segments?

- Focus on use of dedicated easements rather than impacting other neighborhoods by creating new easements.
- Impact on environment and wildlife (support for choosing segment M over L to reduce these impacts).
- Request to trust the advisory group to provide valuable community input that is more insightful than the model.

Any additional questions and/or comments about this project?

- Make interactive map as accurate as the aerial maps here tonight.
- Why is HopeLink on the Community Advisory Group? They don't even know why they're on it.
- Request for further exploration of residential point source solar energy rather than just expanding distribution.
- Feedback that PSE is doing a good job with this project.
- Concerns about health risks related to high voltage power lines with support of choosing segment M rather than L.
- Feedback that Jens did a great job answering questions.
- Is the schedule delay impact of acquiring easements being taken into consideration in route selection process?
- Will the lines follow Bel-Red Road?

**Jan. 30, 2014 open house**

Do you have any comments regarding the potential route segments?

- Segment L:
  - Concerns about segment L impacting views and property values, especially in Kennydale.
  - Concerns about segment L, particularly along Lake Washington Blvd in the Lake Lanes neighborhood, and feeling unfairly impacted by I-405 expansion, potential plans for light rail, trail and freight train development, and now high capacity power lines. Support for use of segment M.
  - Support for segment running through Newport Hills as it will enhance the right of way and disturb fewer people.
  - Suggestion that shoreline, access and aesthetics of segment L corridor should be protected for recreationalists and all citizens of the Puget Sound and that M is the less harmful choice.
- What is the Gaussian peak field now versus peak load of the new lines?
- Will new poles be added or will they replace existing power poles? If new poles are added, where will PSE place them relative to existing poles?
- Request for a gate and fence to prevent ATVs and trucks from driving under power lines, particularly south of 95th Way on segment M.
- Request to preserve the mature trees along the G-1 route as they act as a buffer between the Woodridge Community and the I-90 freeway.
- Support for segment M as L would impact park integrity.
- If new lines are put in on existing route, would power outage repair time get better or worse
- How long is the construction process anticipated to take?
- Support for upgrade of lines, substations and switches.
- Support for use of existing corridors. Support for undergrounding following the existing road easements.

- Support for least impact on fewest customers.
- If segment M is chosen over L, concerns about segment M residents not being treated equally because segment L residents are wealthier.
- Request for PSE not to expand footprint and to stay within existing corridors. Request for more cooperation with Seattle City Light.
- Suggestion to use route M-K2-I.
- Suggestion that segment B should be avoided due to quantity of homes and schools in Bridle Trails and South Rose Hill. Suggestion to use route C.

What should PSE and the advisory group consider while discussing route segments?

- Potential impact of wildlife if line built on segment L.
- Support for choosing segment M over L.
- Request to keep lines out of parks and retain mature, natural vegetation.
- Potential impact on residents.
- Environmental impact and issues.
- Consideration of construction impacts and silt transport to the lake destroying salmon spawning habitat.

Any additional questions and/or comments about this project?

- How will Newcastle and Renton reach a consensus when they are on the same committee? Newcastle will most likely not want route M and Renton/Kennydale won't want route L.
- Positive feedback about open house delivery, preparation and materials, including appreciation about speaking to experts and transparency.
- Concerns about access road closure during construction. What would probable length of these closures be?
- Concern that advisory group process is not well defined and has not been communicated satisfactorily.
- Concern that advisory committee does not fairly represent all neighborhoods.
- Request to limit unattractive cell towers and whips on any new structures, remove invasive vegetation in easements and replace with native vegetation moving forward, and to improve trail systems within PSE corridors to improve experience near them.
- Concern about health hazards for children and elementary schools.

**Attendance – Public**

**Jan. 29, 2014**

Neighborhood or affiliation	Approximate attendance
Benjamin Rush	1
Braeburn	1
Eastgate	1
Education Hill	2
Finn Hill	1
Houghton/Kirkland	1
Idylwood	1
Juanita	1
Kirkland	1
Lake Lanes Neighborhood Association	1

Neighborhood or affiliation	Approximate attendance
Newport Hill	2
Phantom Lake	1
Redwood Hills	2
South Rose Hill/North Rose Hill/Bridal Trails Neighborhood Association	7
Sixty 01 Association	1
Sherwood Forest	1
Woodford	1
Unidentified	35
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>61</b>

**Jan. 30, 2014**

Neighborhood or affiliation	Approximate attendance
Factoria	1
Issaquah	1
Kennydale Neighborhood Association	14
Lake Heights	1
Lake Lanes	9
Lakehurst	2
Liberty Ridge	1
Maple Ridge Estates Home Owners Association	1
Olympic Pipeline	1
Olympus/City of Newcastle	4
Renton Hill	1
Sienna	2
Sunset Community Association	1
Wilburton Association	1
Woodridge Association	1
Unidentified	48
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>89</b>

<b>Total for both meetings</b>	<b>150</b>
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**Attendance – Staff**

PSE

Andy Wappler

Carol Jaeger

Andrew Lightfoot

Bradley Strauch

Whitney Rearick

Gretchen Aliabadi

Denise Steendahl

Jennifer Tada

Doug Loreen

Susan Hempstead

Mike Wood

Jolin Alexander

Max Emrick

Grant Ringel

Kerry Kriner  
Jeff McMeekin  
Andy Swayne  
Angela Wingate  
Jason VanNort  
Jake Wade  
Nate Caminos  
Stan Fuller  
Cody Olson

Leann Kostek  
Jens Nedrud  
Will Chin  
Julia Hughes  
Brett Conrad  
Clayton Tinsley  
Ira McDaniel  
Ryan Wieder  
Ray Lane

Consultants

Diann Strom, EnviroIssues  
Kassie Morton, EnviroIssues  
Kristine Edens, EnviroIssues  
David Gitlin, EnviroIssues  
Alayna Linde, EnviroIssues  
Lauren Dennis, EnviroIssues  
Laura Treadway, EnviroIssues  
Dana Olson, EnviroIssues  
Penny Mabie, EnviroIssues  
Ali Stanford, EnviroIssues  
Abby Chazanow, EnviroIssues

Tim Roby, PRW  
Mark Williamson, PRW  
Andy Bury, TetraTech  
Tom Gentile, Quanta Technology  
Drew Thatcher, Independent Board Certified  
Health Physicist  
Sarah Langton, Langton Spieth LLC  
Kelly Evans, Soundview Strategies  
Steve Harrison, POWER Engineers  
Lowell Rogers, POWER Engineers