

Briefing Notes: West Bridle Trails neighborhood

Meeting host: Puget Sound Energy (PSE), Lisa Marsh

Location: PSE Red-West facility on Willows Road NE, Redmond

Date: May 12, 2014

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Total attendees: ~40

Purpose and overview: Several neighbors living in West Bridle Trails near 116th Avenue NE in Bellevue requested a briefing on the Energize Eastside project from Puget Sound Energy (PSE). Residents at this meeting primarily lived close to the proposed Segment B route. Neighborhoods represented included Stoneybrook, Bridle Creek Estates, Sablewood and Cor-Sun Ranch.

At the briefing, the project team:

- Met West Bridle Trails community members attending the meeting
- Informed community members about the project need, details and schedule
- Described PSE's work to date, and explained how community members can get involved in the public routing discussion
- Answered questions

Format: Prior to the presentation, project team staff members were available to answer questions and make in-person introductions to community members. Informational materials including large maps were provided. Andy Wappler, Vice President Corporate Affairs, provided a presentation on Energize Eastside, including an overview of the project, discussing why the project is needed and how West Bridle Trails community members can get involved in the public routing discussion. Project Manager Leann Kostek, Project Engineer Andrew Lightfoot, Communications Initiatives Manager Gretchen Aliabadi, and Community Projects Manager Keri Pravitz also answered audience questions following the presentation.

Themes heard or provided via comment cards

Note: This section reflects a synthesis of individual questions, comments and themes that came up at the meeting. The synthesis provided is not intended for use as a verbatim transcription. Attendees were encouraged to provide comments on hard-copy comment cards or through the project website following the meeting.

- Interest in using the current 115 kV corridor for the 230 kV transmission line
- Interest in why options other than the current 115 kV corridor were being considered for the new 230 kV transmission line, given that an existing transmission line at lower voltage already is in place
- Question about what would happen to the existing poles and wires when a new line was built
- Questions about the right of way and easements along proposed Segment B
- Questions about where growth is occurring and where the demand for energy is in relation to the proposed route segments
- Interest in whether the Seattle City Light corridor that runs through Bridle Trails between segments B and C could be used for the Energize Eastside project, and questions about why Seattle City Light has lines on the Eastside
- Question about how neighborhoods would be affected during construction
- Interest in undergrounding

- Interest in placing the lines along I-405 instead of 116th Avenue NE
- Questions about having electric lines near schools
- Question about eminent domain
- Question about property values and compensation
- Question about when the existing lines along Segment C were built
- Interest in the Community Advisory Group process, who represents West Bridle Trails, and how they could be in touch with their representatives
- Questions about the evaluation criteria being used in the advisory group process
- Question about construction costs, and how it would differ for different route options
- Concern about a salmon-bearing creek along 116th Avenue NE that has environmental protections in place
- Interest in the route selection and decision-making process
- Interest in the public input process
- Question about an existing electric line along 116th Avenue NE that is not currently in use and its potential future use
- Questions about electromagnetic fields (EMF) and any associated health risks
- Explanation about how PSE makes a profit, and how it differs from traditional profit models
- Interest in how PSE is regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
- Interest in how long the existing 115 kV line along Segment C would continue to be useful
- Discussion about how easements along a road right-of-way work
- Concerns about noise from I-405 if trees were removed
- Information shared about the amount of traffic that currently exists along 116th Avenue NE
- Questions about rail corridor easement
- Concern that a walking path created by the City of Bellevue along the east side of 116th Avenue NE might affect the right-of-way and pole installation options
- Questions about how installing a new power line in the neighborhood might affect lot size
- Interest in how the neighborhood could work together to submit their combined questions and concerns to the project

PSE appreciates community input and expression of interests and concerns. Input from the community will help PSE with the route selection process as the project moves forward.