



LARAMIE COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Planning • Building

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laramie County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Bryce Hamilton, Associate Planner

DATE: January 16th, 2024

TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING regarding The Proposed Ready Wyoming Bison to West Cheyenne Orchard Valley King Ranch 115kV Transmission Line Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Electrical Consultants, Inc., on behalf of Cheyenne Light, Fuel & Power, has submitted several permitting applications for approval of a large highpower transmission line project. Enclosed with this brief report is a project map for the project, and a project narrative from the developer. Under the Laramie County Land Use Regulations (LCLUR) § 2-2-127, the Laramie County Board of County Commissioners is required to hold a public hearing for every proposal to construct highpower transmission lines in Laramie County in order to discern the public's position on the project and to assure that the project will be located so as to minimize disruption of existing county residents and land users. While the Board does not have discretion to disapprove the applications, this hearing provides the developer a chance to hear the public's concerns, answer any questions the public may have, and make any changes that may be deemed appropriate as a result.

BACKGROUND

The current use of the property being crossed is primarily vacant residential land situated variously in the County's LU, A-1, A-2, PUD, and LI Zone Districts. Starting from the west, the project will build transmission lines from the tap near the North Range Business Park, move south crossing Otto Road and east crossing the Swan Ranch Rail Park, connecting to the Orchard Valley Substation near the vicinity of the Orchard Valley Subdivision, and then run south along South Greeley Highway before finally moving east to connect to the Bison Substation.

In accordance with LCLUR § 2-2-127, mailers were sent to all property owners within a 1500-foot radius of the proposed locations of the transmission lines. A total of four hundred and fifteen (415) mailers were sent. Floodplain development permits for all floodplain crossings have been obtained, and a standard grading permit for the project has been issued.

Pertinent regulations include:

LCLUR § 2-2-127, governing the notice and public hearing requirements for all proposed transmission line projects greater than 69kV.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Developer Narrative

Attachment 2: Project Map

November 20, 2023

Laramie County
Planning and Development
3966 Archer Parkway
Cheyenne
Wyoming 82009

Subject: Board Approval Project Letter - Bison to West Cheyenne Orchard Valley King Ranch 115 kV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Justin Arnold:

Project Description:

Cheyenne Light, Power and Fuel and Wyoming Frontier Partners (Joint partnership between ECI and QSIG) are proposing to construct the Ready Wyoming Bison to West Cheyenne Orchard Valley King Ranch 115 kV Transmission Line (Project) in Laramie County, Wyoming. The Project consists of 10.75 miles of double circuit and 1.25 miles of single circuit 115 kV transmission line. The line will serve as a connection between the Bison Substation and West Cheyenne 115kV line, the Bison Substation and the Orchard Valley Substation, and the Orchard Valley Substation to the King Ranch 115kV line. The line will be designed and constructed to meet the minimum requirements as set forth by the NESC, satisfying NESC Heavy District requirements for Grade B construction.

Land Use and Zoning:

The transmission line begins at the Bison Substation approximately 5 miles south of Cheyenne and continues northwest to the new Orchard Valley Substation and to the East Alternate Connection Tap. The project crosses Township 13 North, Range 66 West, Sections 28, 29, 20, 18, 19 and Township 13 North, Range 67 West, Sections 24, 23, 14, 15, 16, 17, 08. Land Use varies from Agricultural, Industrial, Residential and Commercial. The project crosses eight zoning districts and is a use-by-right in all districts according to the Laramie County Land Use Regulations Section 2-2-128. All access, crossing, floodplain development and erosion and sediment control permits will be applied for prior to construction.

- AR - Agricultural Residential
- A-1 - Agricultural And Rural Residential
- A-2 - Agricultural
- AG - City Agricultural
- CB - Community Business
- HI - Heavy Industrial
- LI - Light Industrial
- PUD - Planned Unit Development

Access:

The transmission line will primarily be accessible from local roads, where structure access is presumed to be along the right-of-way (ROW). Access along the ROW will be created using a drive and crush method. Access along the ROW will remain for operation and maintenance access. ROW clearances will comply with Black Hills Energy (BHE) standards and applicable codes including NESC, RUS, local, state, and other recognized safety requirements. The ROW will be accessed using the following local roads:

- Robert Avenue/Highway 85 service road

- Richard Road
- High Plains Road
- Division Avenue
- Private Road 1 (Connecting from Apple Street and York Avenue)
- Private Road 2 (Connecting from Apple Street and York Avenue)
- Private Road 3 (Connecting from College Drive)
- Quartz Drive
- Clear Creek Parkway
- Private Road 4
- Otto Road
- Private Road 5 (Off Otto Road)
- Private Road 6 (Microsoft Corporation Property)

Stormwater:

The transmission line will have a temporary disturbance of approximately 62.2 acres and a permanent disturbance of approximately 42.65 acres. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be installed as necessary throughout the ROW to eliminate erosion and reduce sediment from flowing downstream away from soil-disturbing construction activities. BMPs employed during construction will include stabilized construction entrances, filter sock, low water crossings, matting and seeding.

Design:

The Project is to be constructed with Corten steel tangents and deadends. Pole top configurations are primarily monopole. Typical structure heights range from 75 feet to 120 feet above ground-line. The foundations for the Project are to be drilled concrete pier for deadends and angled structures, and slurry backfill for tangent structures.

Timeline:

Line construction will begin in mid December and end in late June 2024. Construction activities are detailed below:

Sequence of Construction Activities	
Mobilization	12/15/2023
Best Management Practices (BMPs) Installed	12/15/2023
ROW Clearing and Access	12/18/2023
Foundations	12/22/2023
Framing	2/9/2024
Structure Setting	2/28/2024
Wire Stringing	3/14/2024
Equipment Testing	4/1/2024
Revegetation and Stabilization of Disturbed Areas	4/13/2024
Estimated Completion	6/28/2024
Final Stabilization and Removal of BMPs	7/18/2024

Sincerely,



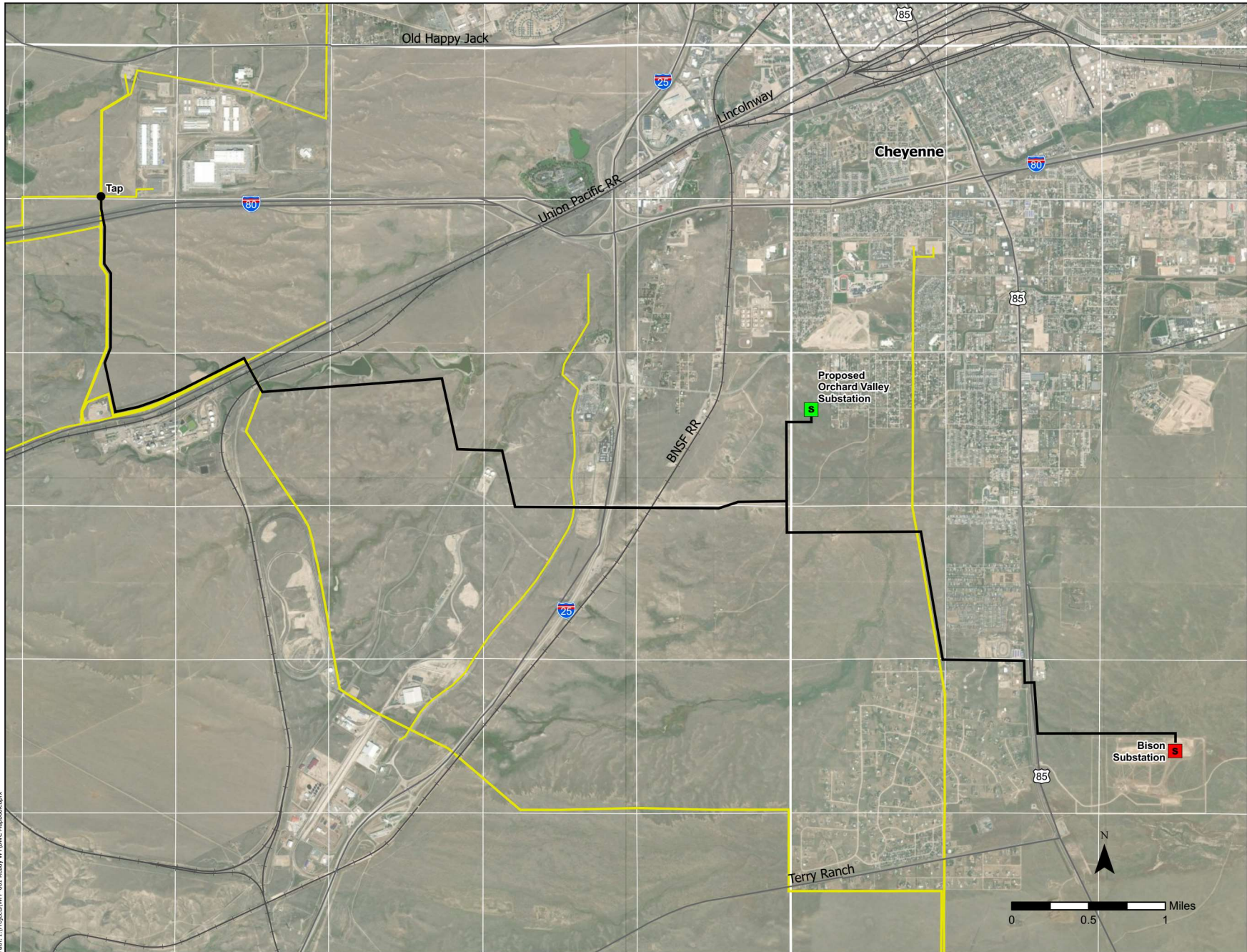
Signature

Randal G. Harris

Print Name

Director of Land

Title



Ready Wyoming
 Bison to West Cheyenne
 115 kV Transmission Line
Overview



- Bison Substation
- Proposed Orchard Valley Substation
- Tap
- Bison to West Cheyenne 115kV Transmission Line
- Existing Transmission Line
- Road
- Railroad

