

The draft Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final FEIS) for the Kake-to-Petersburg Transmission Line Intertie Project (KPI Project) are available for your review online at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=31761>.

The FEIS describes and analyzes four alternatives, including a no-action alternative. Under the no-action alternative, there would be no transmission line or associated facilities constructed. The proposed action alternatives range from 51.9 miles to 60.3 miles in total length, with 82 percent to 88 percent of their total length located on NFS lands. The proposed transmission line would be built to transmit power at either 69- or 138-kilovolts and would consist of single wood pole structures with horizontal post insulators. Average span lengths between pole structures would be 350 to 400 feet, with an average above-ground height of 55 feet.

All three action alternatives follow existing NFS system roads to the extent possible, with the length along existing roads ranging from 58 percent to 72 percent of the total. The action alternatives all cross Inventoried Roadless Areas. No new roads would be built under any of the alternatives. Construction access in unroaded areas would be via temporary shovel trails and mat-

ting panels, with helicopter support, as needed. The action alternatives would all involve marine crossings.

The draft ROD documents the Forest Supervisor's intention to select Alternative 2 (Northern Route), and the facts considered in reaching this decision. The decision would authorize the project applicant to construct an electric transmission line between Petersburg on Mitkof Island and the city of Kake on Kupreanof Island. The transmission line would be approximately 60 miles long and follow existing roads for 34 miles. Access for construction along the remaining sections of the route would be via shovel trails supported by temporary matting panels.

This project is subject to the predecisional administrative review process (objection process) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, subparts A and B. See the section "Administrative Review – Opportunity to

Object" for information on filing an objection at the end of the ROD.

A legal notice has been published in the newspaper of record, the *Ketchikan Daily News* notifying the public of the availability of the draft ROD. A copy of the legal notice will also be posted on the Forest Service project website at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=31761>.

For additional information, please contact Tom Parker, Petersburg Ranger District, at (907) 772-3871.

