

To parties interested in the Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review:

You are cordially invited to participate in a third Stakeholder Listening Session to discuss the future of the Columbia River Treaty after 2024. The same listening session will be held in three different locations:

Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review: Draft Alternatives for Evaluation

Tuesday, September 27

8:30-Noon

Davenport Hotel

Spokane, WA

Friday, September 30

8:30-Noon

Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel

Portland, OR

Thursday, October 13

8:30-11:00

Grove Hotel

Boise, Idaho

Purpose of the Listening Session

This is a critical stage in Treaty Review. Over the past several months, the Sovereign Technical and Review Teams have developed a set of hypothetical alternatives to current river management. The alternatives will be subject to modeling and analysis, and the information generated will help the sovereigns craft a recommendation on the future of the Treaty. You are invited to learn more about, and comment on, these draft alternatives. An agenda is attached.

RSVP Requested

Please let us know if you plan to attend one of the listening sessions on September 27, September 30, or October 13. To RSVP, respond to this e-mail, or send a separate e-mail message to treatyreview@bpa.gov or call 1-800-622-4519. When we receive notice that you will be attending, we will send you the meeting packet that includes the draft alternatives.

What is the Columbia River Treaty?

The Columbia River Treaty was signed by the United States and Canada in 1961 and implemented in 1964. The Treaty doubled water storage capacity on the Columbia River system with construction of three large storage projects in Canada (Duncan, Keenleyside and Mica), and Libby Dam in the United States. Through a coordinated operation, these Treaty projects have provided billions of dollars (U.S.) of flood damage reduction and power benefits in both Canada and the United States.

Why the Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review?

Although the Treaty has no expiration date, beginning in 2024 and thereafter, either country has the option to terminate with 10 years' notice. This is why 2014 is such an important date. While the Treaty has had significant benefits to both nations, the cost to the United States to continue the Treaty is an estimated \$250 to \$350 million dollars of power sent to Canada annually as the Canadian Entitlement. Looking out to 2024 and beyond, it is not certain that the benefits of continuing the Treaty will exceed the costs. In addition, the 60 years of flood control space in Canadian Treaty projects expires in 2024. Instead of a coordinated and managed plan to regulate both Canadian and U.S. dams for flood risk management, the Treaty calls for a shift to an operation under which the U.S. calls upon Canada for assistance. Given the importance of these issues, the U.S. Entity has embarked on a multi-year effort to understand the implications of these

issues. The U.S. Entity intends to make a recommendation to the U.S. Department of State about the future of the Treaty by September 2013.

What is the U.S. Entity?

The U.S. Entity, composed of the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration and the Division Engineer of the Northwestern Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is charged with implementing the Columbia River Treaty in the United States.

What is the Sovereign Review Team?

The Sovereign Review Team is a team of tribal, state and federal government representatives that are helping to identify and study policy and technical matters associated with the Treaty Review. The U.S. Entity is working in consultation with the SRT to ultimately inform the U.S. Entity recommendation to the U.S. Department of State in 2013.

Where can I find more information?

For more information, call Nancy Stephan, Treaty Review Program Manager for BPA, at 503-230-5296, or Matt Rea, Treaty Review Program Manager for the Corps of Engineers, at 503-808-4750. You also may contact them via e-mail at treatyreview@bpa.gov.

An overview of the Treaty and Phase 1 and Supplemental reports can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov/>.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope that you can join us.

Sincerely,

Witt Anderson
Coordinator, U.S. Entity
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Stephen Oliver
Coordinator, U.S. Entity
Bonneville Power Administration

*To participate in the Web-based sessions, you must login to view the materials *and* call in to hear the discussion. Prior to your first Web-based meeting you must download and install “meeting manager” software by going to <https://www.webmeeting.att.com> and clicking on the “downloads” button along the left side of the screen. This can take less than a minute, but we ask that you login early to allow for any system delays. Once the download is complete, you may login to the meeting using the information below.

Toll-free phone bridge information:

Number: 877-336-1828 **Access code:** 8468386 **Security Password:** 3669

Web Meeting login information:

Web site: <https://www.webmeeting.att.com> **Meeting number:** 877-336-1828 **Code:** 8468386