

**STUDY AVAILABILITY NOTICE:**

Earlier this year, NorthWestern Energy, Avista Corporation, PacifiCorp, Portland General Electric Company, Puget Sound Energy and the Bonneville Power Administration commissioned an exploratory study (Colstrip 500 kV Upgrade Exploratory Study) to evaluate the potential for upgrading the Colstrip Transmission System and other Pacific Northwest Transmission Facilities to determine the increased transmission capacity from Colstrip to the Mid-C without constructing new transmission lines.

Copies of this report are available through NorthWestern Energy ("NWE"). This report contains Critical Energy Infrastructure Information ("CEII") and requires the requestor to sign a CEII Non-Disclosure Agreement prior to obtaining a copy. If the requestor is determined to have a legitimate need for the information, NWE will forward a non-disclosure agreement for completion by the requestor. Non-disclosure agreements will include a description of the information being provided and the use the requestor intends for the information.

To request a copy of this report, contact the Director-SOCC Operations and Transmission Services at NorthWestern Energy at [Casey.Johnston@NorthWestern.com](mailto:Casey.Johnston@NorthWestern.com) .