

"Samantha Chang"  
<schang@fs.fed.us  
>  
01/13/2006 10:52  
AM  
To  
Debbie L.  
Condron/EMPL/WA/Verizon@VZNotes  
cc  
"Eric Ozog" <eozog@fs.fed.us>  
Subject  
Index-Galena Rd. Telephone Lines

Hi Debbie,

I checked with our surveyor about ownership and management of the Index-Galena Road. According to his research, Snohomish County has an easement for the road "for highway purposes only", where it crosses National Forest land. Since telephone lines would not be considered a highway purpose, any new lines placed within the road prism, including side ditches within the easement width, would need to be authorized by the Forest Service, after coordinating with Snohomish County to prevent interference with road uses or maintenance.

The portions of private lands through which the lines would pass would not be included in the Forest Service permit. Fees for the permit are \$28.19 per acre per year, so based on a length of MP 2.5 to 5.6 and 10-foot right-of-way, the annual permit fee would be \$105.66 before subtracting the areas of private land. Our minimum annual fee is \$85.00.

If there are any other residents further along the road who may want service, it may be worthwhile to look at the costs of that now. As long as the total right-of-way area ends up being less than 5 contiguous acres, we can review this project with a Decision Memo document under the National Environmental Policy Act, with an estimated cost of at least \$10,000 if you choose to have Forest Service personnel do the review work and write the document. If it takes more than 5 acres, the law requires an Environmental Assessment, and costs are usually around \$50,000 (additional analysis, review, documentation, public notification and comment).

Attached is an application form you can use if Verizon decides to add the lines. As we discussed yesterday, required lead time could be from several months to a year before the review process can get started.

(See attached file: SF-299.rtf)

Give me a call if you have any questions.

Samantha K. Chang  
Lands and Minerals  
Mt. Baker Ranger District  
810 State Route 20  
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284  
(360) 856-5700 ext. 234 [attachment "SF-299.rtf" deleted by Debbie L.  
Condron/EMPL/WA/Verizon]