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Comments: Northern Lights, Inc. (NLI) is an electric utility provider in northern Idaho and northwestern Montana.

NLI has a Special Use Permit for power lines within the Idaho Panhandle National Forests and a number of these permitted power lines are within proposed restricted over-snow travel areas.

In review of the proposed action, on page 2 of the proposed action document it states as one of the uses exempt:

[ldquo]Over-snow vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issues under Federal law or regulations (such as previously granted easements or permits issues to private landowners to access private property across National Forest System lands).[rdquo]

Within NLI[rsquo]s Special Use Permit, over-snow vehicle use is not specifically addressed. NLI is requesting that the exemptions are more specifically defined to allow a utility with a Special use Permit to use over-snow vehicles at any time within a designated right-of-way.

If you have questions, please contact.