

## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Colorado River District Yuma Field Office 7341 E. 30th Street, Suite A Yuma, Arizona 85365-6525 www.blm.gov/az

In Reply Refer To: (AZA036819)

September 13, 2019

Subject: Ten West Link 500-kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project

Final Environmental Impact Statement, prepared consistent with California

**Environmental Quality Act Section 15221** 

Dear Interested Party:

You are receiving the Federal Register Notice of Availability (NOA) issued by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding the environmental review of the aforementioned project.

On September 14, 2015, Delaney Colorado River Transmission (DCRT), LLC, filed a right-of-way application with the BLM proposing to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission an electric transmission project in western Arizona and southeastern California. BLM, in its role as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) lead agency, has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed project. The portion of the project located within the State of California also requires approval from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). CPUC's potential approval would be a discretionary action, and therefore must comply with the requirements of CEQA. The CPUC coordinated with the BLM during preparation of the Final EIS and CEQA Equivalent Appendix (Appendix 1C, Supplemental CEQA Information). Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15221, the CPUC may use the EIS rather than preparing a separate Environmental Impact Report to support their issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the project.

The Preferred Alternative identified in the FEIS considers a 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line traversing 125 miles, with 103.5 miles in Arizona and a 21.5-mile segment in California. The 21.5-mile segment would begin at the Colorado River Substation west of the City of Blythe and run eastward to the Colorado River south of the Interstate 10 corridor in eastern Riverside County, California. The project would terminate at the Delaney Substation in Tonopah, Arizona. The 21.5 miles in California follows portions of the existing Devers to Palo Verde 500 kV transmission line and other existing transmission infrastructure and is within an established utility corridor. The project would increase transmission capacity by 3,200 megawatts and provide interconnection capability for new energy projects located near the proposed project. As proposed the project would include transmission structures between 72 and 190 feet in height, new access roads, where necessary, and other associated infrastructure.

The Final EIS and CEQA Equivalent Appendix, provide details on the proposed project; evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed project; identifies potentially significant impacts; and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the CPUC or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Final EIS also evaluates alternatives to the proposed project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA.

## **AVAILABILITY OF FINAL EIS**

The Final EIS, including Appendix 1C, Supplemental CEQA Information and all supporting information, is available for review on the BLM website at <a href="http://go.usa.gov/xU6Be">http://go.usa.gov/xU6Be</a> and the CPUC website at <a href="http://go.usa.gov/xu6Be">http://go.usa.gov/xu6Be</a> and the CPUC website at <a href="http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/dudek/tenwest/index.htm">http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/dudek/tenwest/index.htm</a>. In addition, copies of the Final EIS and appendices (either as hardcopies or on CD) are available for review at the following locations in Arizona and California:

## **Environmental Document Repositories**

Location	Address
BLM Offices	
BLM Desert District Office	22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553
Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office	1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262
Yuma Field Office	7341 E. 30 <sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma AZ 85365
Arizona State Office	One North Central Ave. Suite 800 Phoenix, AZ 85004
Libraries	
Palo Verde Valley Library	125 W Chanslor Way, Blythe CA 92225
Palm Springs Library	300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262
Quartzsite Public Library	465 N Plymouth Quartzsite, AZ 85346
Buckeye Public Library Downtown	310 N 6 <sup>th</sup> St. Buckeye, AZ 85326
Parker Public Library	1001 Navajo Ave. Parker, AZ 85344

**For additional information:** Visit the project ePlanning website at <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xU6Be">https://go.usa.gov/xU6Be</a> or contact Lane Cowger at <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xU6Be">blm\_az\_azso\_10WestLink@blm.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

William Mack Colorado River District Manager