Thank you for your comment, Christopher Noland.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWCD0325. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 06:58:15 PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWCD0325

First Name: Christopher
Middle Initial: A
Last Name: Noland
Address: 39524 Jewel Valley Court
City: Boulevard
State: CA
Zip: 91905
Country: USA
Email: astrockguy@hotmail.com
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
For the record, I am fully supportive of the no project alternative as described in the West-Wide Energy Corridor Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

The document fails to establish one particular need for the project in each geographic area. Multiple transmission lines for multi-modal uses are proposed for the 11 western states, but an identifiable need for each modal use has not been completed for each geographic region.

The document also fails to establish the States right in determination of greenhouse gas emissions by allowing transmission corridors for natural gas. California is trying to lower greenhouse gas emissions (Global Warming Solutions Act) and the proposed programmatic EIS would allow a Federal agency decision to override a State decision on a particular project. The Federal Government should not be allowed to override a State’s recognized, legitimate, and regulatory authority.

The document also states that the purpose of the energy corridors is to improve reliability, relieve congestion, and enhance the capability of the national grid to deliver energy. The California Public Utility Commission recently published the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Sunrise Powerlink. The proposed project is a 500kV electric transmission line to bring renewable and/or other energy resources into San Diego County. The Draft EIR/EIS identified five alternatives to the proposed project. Among those were "In-Area All-Source Generation" and "In-Area Renewable Generation", both of which would meet the proposed project goals. This document fails to identify VALID alternatives to meet the purpose as is stated in the programmatic EIS. The only other alternative listed for this EIS is the no project alternative and that is completely unacceptable. The alternatives that were eliminated failed to look at renewable resources within each of the metropolitan areas listed in the document. One particular alternative could be the use of solar renewables in the metropolitan Phoenix area that gets almost 300 cloudless days per year.

Section 368 and this document also fail to address that each energy corridor that is
routed through federal land which is already being managed by a land use management plan will require each one of those management plans to be amended. The PEIS states that if an agency has an existing land use management plan, it would simply be amended by signing a Record of Decision for this PEIS. Amending each management plan to allow multi-modal uses or even one modal use will and should trigger the use of the National Environmental Policy Act to affect the change. It will also require each management plan to be revised and reviewed with public comment. Appendix A lists 20 pages of management plans that would be affected. The use of this PEIS will not only lengthen the process, but added taxpayer costs to revise each and every management plan will have to be realized.

The PEIS calls for multi-modal use through the Cortillo-Coyote Wells Sole Source Aquifer. The segment 115-238 traverses known faulting within this sole source aquifer. Significant contamination to the sole source aquifer can occur with multi-modal use. Active seismic activity occurs within this sole source aquifer. Seismic movement can rupture transmission lines and release contaminants to this Sole Source Aquifer.

This PEIS does not discuss groundwater ramifications or mitigation measures for blasting within groundwater dependent areas such as eastern San Diego County. Blasting may typically occur during transmission structure construction and may adversely affect groundwater wells in fractured rock. Most groundwater wells in fractured-rock aquifers are typically uncased across water-bearing fractures. Blasting could loosen fractured-rock layers or sediments. This could result in changed flow patterns of groundwater or wells that become silted up. This could be a particular problem within the Campo-Cottonwood Sole Source Aquifer where electric transmission corridors are proposed to be silted.

The PEIS also fails to recognize insects as endangered species. There is no mention of species such as the Quino Checkerspot Butterfly that inhabits the area along the 115-238 segment.

The PEIS also fails to recognize the geologic formations of the Imperial Valley to contain abundant fossil assemblages from ancient Lake Cahuilla and other even older lacustrine deposits. There is no mention of these deposits or many cultural resources left behind from the Native Americans who inhabited the shores of this ancient lake. Please see the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for more information on this subject.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridorreis@wbdmext2r.anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: coronoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 6:46 PM
To: mail_corridoreisarchives
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEDCD50326

Thank you for your comment, Kari Swanson.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEDCD50326. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 08:45:31PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEDCD50326

First Name: Kari
Last Name: Swanson
Address:
City:
State: NY
Zip:
Country: USA
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
An alternative needs to be developed that links up the corridors to Nevada’s high quality geothermal, solar, and wind sources. Public lands should not be supporting new coal plants and last century’s energy policy. America needs a forward thinking energy policy that moves the country toward the use of renewable energy sources and away from fossil fuels.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: coronoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 8:54 PM  
To: mail.corridorisarchives  
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEC50327

Thank you for your comment, Kathleen Chandler.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEC50327. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 08:53:46PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEC50327

First Name: Kathleen  
Last Name: Chandler  
City: Reno  
State: NV  
Country: USA  
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Most importantly, special and sensitive wilderness areas must be avoided and preserved and an alternative needs to be developed that links up the corridors to Nevada's high quality geothermal, solar, and wind sources. Public lands should not be supporting new coal plants and last century's energy policy. America needs a forward thinking energy policy that moves the country toward the use of renewable energy sources and away from fossil fuels.

Agencies need to make this process more transparent to the public - with detailed maps and various alternatives. Without alternatives, we can only comment on what we don't like about the proposed plan.

Special or sensitive public lands need to be avoided altogether. Specific to our region - the 223-224 and 37-232 lines that are in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge and the 232-233 line that impacts the Delamar Mountains and Meadow Valley Range Wilderness Areas.

The corridors will fragment the habitat of the threatened desert tortoise and the desert bighorn sheep. Scientists say that wildlife habitat suffers from roads and powerlines. The wildlife refuge is a wildlife refuge, not a power corridor.

The cumulative impact of these energy corridors need to be analyzed for federal, state, private, and tribal lands that will be impacted when the corridors are connected. There is no such analysis currently.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-8182.

Thank you for your comment, Vicki Cohen.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEC50328. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 09:22:22PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEC50328

First Name: Vicki
Middle Initial: J
Last Name: Cohen
Address: 
City: 
State: NY
Zip: 
Country: USA
Email: 
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
Once again the government has decided to take action without required public input. The lands considered for invasion of powerlines belong to the American people, & what happens to them & the animals that live on them, is of importance to us & we should be allowed to voice our opinion. My opinion is simply this: Follow the law & give everyone a chance to Comment.
Thank you for your comment, Gary Sandquist.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWED50329. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 09:38:10PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWED50329

First Name: Gary
Middle Initial: M
Last Name: Sandquist
Organization: Applied Science Professionals, LLC
Address: PO Box 9052
City: Salt Lake City
State: UT
Zip: 84109
Country: USA
Email: gms@asp-llc.com
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Transmission corridors 43-111, 43-44, and 43-110 which travel along the western border of NV will undoubtedly be used for transmitting electrical power to Las Vegas, AZ, and CA. What is the presumed capacity of this route? The demand upon this corridor could reach many Gigawatts within a decade of two.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 9:42 PM
To: mail.correidoreisarchives
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWED50330

Thank you for your comment, David Schlessinger.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWED50330. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 09:41:58PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWED50330

First Name: David
Last Name: Schlessinger
Organization: Washoe Tribe
Email: 
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
Wildlife habitats, wilderness areas, and open lands are extremely important to protect. We need sustainable energy, but we also need to disallow roads that fragment these areas. Nevada's wide open places need to be protected because they are unique.

50330-001

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Gene Frick.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWCDS0331. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 10:17:41PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWCDS0331

First Name: Gene
Last Name: Frick
Address: 4271 Baggett Drive
City: Riverside
State: CA
Zip: 92505
Country: USA
Email: gfrick@cosmoaccess.com
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Attachment: C:\Documents and Settings\Owner\My Documents\Do Something\West Wide Corridors \DEIS\DEIS strategy and comments\West Wide DPEIS Comments.pdf

Comment Submitted:
My comments are attached

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridorwebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)344-6480.
COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ("DPEIS") FOR THE WEST WIDE CORRIDOR PROJECT
Gene Frick

STANDING

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of California. I view all national public lands as owned by all citizens but held in trust by the federal government for the benefit and enjoyment of its owners. I realize that benefit is frequently interpreted as cash value and that highest benefit is therefore interpreted as highest cash value. I object to that interpretation in that there are many values which Americans have historically and traditionally held that can not be assigned a cash value. American song, literature, poetry, tradition and sometimes legislation have placed a higher value on many non-fungible publicly owned resources than on those which either directly or indirectly can be readily converted into financial gain, especially if they are not sustainable once destroyed. I feel the same about lands owned by the State of California.

Since I was old enough to be a cub scout (about ¼ of our history as a Constituted Country), I have used and enjoyed public lands. I have always used them with the respect that publicly owned property deserves (it is after all private property owned by all of us), and I have been sensitive to its care. I find public lands to be exciting, inviting, challenging, a means for personal refreshment and at times just a sheer joy to behold. I find that the presence of transmission lines, pipelines and the scars that these create greatly detract from those values. There are several alternatives to using public lands for energy infrastructure and these alternatives by and large contribute to our welfare and security.

POSITION I

The DPEIS is deficient because it does not adequately consider terrorist attacks on the critical infrastructure for which the proposed corridors are being established.

INTRODUCTION

Since its enactment in 1969, The National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") has grown in scope and impact on all major federal projects. Over time the list of mandatory considerations in an adequate EIS has grown with expanding national environmental policy and NEPA adjudication relating to critical subjects involved in federal projects and actions. This has led to an expansion of the meaning of environmental impact which is meant to hold federal agencies accountable for the good and welfare of our citizenry and our values concerning natural resources. In a government of, by and for the people, this is as it should be.

We have always been aware that we are subject to the random destructiveness of natural forces. Public safety has therefore been a necessary component in an EIS when things like dam safety in an earthquake, atomic reactor safety or flood protection are concerned. Since September 11, 2001 we have had a heightened awareness of our vulnerabilities with respect to intentional attacks on our lives, property and welfare. It is my contention that an EIS for a proposed action related to critical infrastructure must consider how the infrastructure can be hardened against terrorist attacks or how alternatives to the proposed action can mitigate or avoid the threat of terrorism. This is a change in national policy which needs to be incorporated into NEPA.

It should be obvious that to protect ourselves from the threat of terrorism and to insure that we have...
minimized the effects of terrorist attacks should they happen in the future, that we must give serious consideration to the possibility of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure projects from the beginning. This would include design, implementation, siting and alternatives that would reduce our vulnerability while at the same time meeting the project's needs. It is incongruous that we create the new federal agency of Homeland Security, require people to take their shoes off at airports, search their luggage and pass massive legislation relating to protection and at the same time fail to even mention the subject of terrorist attacks when discussing critical infrastructure in a DPEIS.

Up until now this has not been a required consideration in an EIS, but it should be. A natural corollary is that when critical infrastructure is involved in an EIS the Department of Homeland Security would be a cooperating agency which could and should give expert consultation on subjects of hardening and avoidance of sensitivity to terrorist attacks.

HOMELAND SECURITY IN THE DPEIS

The only mention that I could find in the entire DPEIS of Homeland Security was on page 3-10. To quote, "The FS also authorizes land uses pertaining to communications, commerce, public health and safety, and homeland security."

I could find no mention at all of terrorism or terrorist attacks. The subject simply was not considered.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

United States Code Title 42, Sec. 5195c(e) Critical infrastructure defined
In this section, the term "critical infrastructure" means systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") has established a rule which regulates dissemination of critical energy infrastructure information ("CEII"). A particular type of critical infrastructure is formally stated in the rule contained in Title 18, Code of Federal Regulations § 388.113 (1) Critical energy infrastructure information means specific engineering, vulnerability, or detailed design information about proposed or existing critical infrastructure that: (i) Relates details about the production, generation, transmission, or distribution of energy [116 FERC ¶61,263 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION 18 CFR Part 388 (Docket No. RM06-24-000; Order No. 683) Critical Energy Infrastructure Information Issued September 21, 2006]

This is precisely the kind of infrastructure this DPEIS is about so we are here dealing with corridors for critical infrastructure.

NATIONAL POLICY ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

An important policy toward protection of critical infrastructure was established in the "Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001" Title 42, Sec. 5195C, part c and d.

5195c(c) Policy of the United States
It is the policy of the United States—
(1) that any physical or virtual disruption of the operation of the critical infrastructures of the United
States be rare, brief, geographically limited in effect, manageable, and minimally detrimental to the economy, human and government services, and national security of the United States; (2) that actions necessary to achieve the policy stated in paragraph (1) be carried out in a public-private partnership involving corporate and non-governmental organizations; and .......

This could easily be read to mean that protection could be best effected by serious consideration in a DPEIS.

5195ct(d) Establishment of national competence for critical infrastructure protection
(1) Support of critical infrastructure protection and continuity by National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center
There shall be established the National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center (NISAC) to serve as a source of national competence to address critical infrastructure protection and continuity through support for activities related to counterterrorism, threat assessment, and risk mitigation.
(2) Particular support
The support provided under paragraph (1) shall include the following:
(A) Modeling, simulation, and analysis of the systems comprising critical infrastructures, including cyber infrastructure, telecommunications infrastructure, and physical infrastructure, in order to enhance understanding of the large-scale complexity of such systems and to facilitate modification of such systems to mitigate the threats to such systems and to critical infrastructures generally.

This part establishes the government entity which should be consulted for measures in a DPEIS “to address critical infrastructure protection and continuity through support for activities related to counterterrorism, threat assessment, and risk mitigation.”

The Act should be interpreted to say that critical infrastructure protection must be addressed in a DPEIS.

On December 17, 2003 President Bush issued Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7: Critical Infrastructure Identification, Prioritization, and Protection. Item 10 of that directive is consistent with the series of events that culminated in FERC's rule which established CEII. Item 8 of the President's directive said the following: “(8) Federal departments and agencies will identify, prioritize, and coordinate the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources in order to prevent, deter, and mitigate the effects of deliberate efforts to destroy, incapacitate, or exploit them. Federal departments and agencies will work with State and local governments and the private sector to accomplish this objective.”

If a federal agency establishes new critical infrastructure without first evaluating it as a potential terrorist target, there may then be no good way to protect it after it has been built. Therefore, failure to address critical infrastructure in this DPEIS is a violation of this clear presidential directive.

Up until 9/11/2001 the risk to public safety from events like dam failure was considered to be only from human error or natural causes. These were and are given appropriate consideration and analysis in any NEPA document concerning dams. Indeed this DPEIS considers public health and safety associated with completed energy projects in the proposed corridors especially from geologic circumstances [e.g. sections 3.3 and 3.14].

After 9/11 terrorism and intentional destruction of critical infrastructure has been added to public safety threats. NEPA is clear and direct with respect to public health and safety. [42 USC 4331(b)(3); CEQ
1508.27(b)(2)]. Safety is to be given the highest priority in consideration of project alternatives and analysis.

In the Federal Register / Vol. 72, No. 87 / Monday, May 7, 2007, the DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, published the Draft National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor Designations. This NIETC process has been cited in this DPEIS as a source justification for West Wide Corridor designations. In the draft DOE made the following statement, “Therefore, the Department believes that national defense and homeland security considerations warrant designation of a National Corridor for the Southern California Critical Congestion Area.

It makes no sense whatsoever to use homeland security as a justification for designating corridors and at the same time fail to mention it in a DPEIS for those same corridors.

DOE has been participating in preparedness and specifically by contributing to The National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). In May 2007, DOE released the document “Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources Sector-Specific Plan as input to the National Infrastructure Protection Plan” (Redacted) ["SSP"].

The SSP defines energy specific infrastructure as follows, “The Energy Sector consists of thousands of electricity, oil, and natural gas assets that are geographically dispersed and connected by systems and networks. Therefore, interdependency within the sector and across the Nation’s critical infrastructure sectors is critical.” This is exactly what this DPEIS is about.

In section 3.5 Assessing Vulnerabilities, we find that there are a number of elements in risk analysis connected to critical energy infrastructure. Quoting from SSP, “Vulnerabilities are the characteristics of an asset, system, or network’s design, location, security posture, process, or operation that render it susceptible to destruction, incapacitation, or exploitation by mechanical failures, natural hazards, terrorist attacks, or other malicious acts. Vulnerability assessments identify areas of weakness that could result in consequences of concern, taking into account intrinsic structural weaknesses, protective measures, resiliency, and redundancies.” This is what an opening statement would look like in the missing Terrorism Section of this DPEIS.

Clearly location is an important aspect of reducing vulnerability to terrorist attacks and for this reason alternative locations must be considered in this DPEIS.

Page 3-273 of the DPEIS considers potential impacts on cultural resources due to site location. “Any increase in the presence of humans in an uncontrolled and unmonitored environment containing significant cultural resources increases the potential for adverse impacts caused by looting (unauthorized collection of artifacts), vandalism, and inadvertent destruction to unrecognized resources.”

It is easy to see that the quote could be slightly modified to read; Any increase in the presence of humans in an uncontrolled and unmonitored environment containing critical infrastructure increases the potential for adverse impacts caused by terrorism.

Locating critical infrastructure in areas such as mountainous national forests where there is plentiful cover for terrorist activity made easy be access roads, should clearly be avoided as a last resort for project citing. This will not be addressed unless the DPEIS has a discussion section devoted to terrorism. All of the legislative, directives, study plans and other activities devoted to protection of
critical infrastructure are just so many words on paper if security concerns are not addressed in location alternatives.

A top level view of national policy with respect to terrorism, critical infrastructure protection and NEPA, demands that terrorism be considered in any DEIS relating to critical infrastructure. Failure to do so not only violates legislation, presidential directives and case law, but puts us all at unnecessary and avoidable risk.

URGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

FERC issued the final rule on CEII in Order No. 630 - Critical Energy Infrastructure Information - on 02/21/2003 [102 FERC ¶ 61, 190, FERC accession number 20030221-3065] The rule was criticized for the effect it would have in limiting public information and participation in FERC proceedings. FERC balanced that consideration against the real danger of giving terrorists information that they then might use to cause death and destruction. In the order FERC made the following policy statement: "Where vulnerable areas exist, the Commission believes its responsibility is to reduce risks rather than to wait for proof that an attack is imminent or even likely."

DOE is very aware of possible terrorist threats as exemplified in efforts to protect DOE personnel implied in the statement about DPEIS comments. To quote "Please note that conventional mail to DOE tends to be delayed and may be damaged by security screening" I am sympathetic to their concern about protection from imminent threats, but I want equal protection.

In a speech in December the Director of Homeland Security was quoted. He said: "The terrorist threat to the United States has not abated despite government steps in the past year to tighten rules for people and goods that enter the country, the nation's chief of homeland security said Wednesday."

"The fact that we have not had a terrorist attack on this country in the last six years is not a cause for complacency or a time to celebrate," Michael Chertoff said Wednesday during a year-end speech. "The threat is not going away. The enemy has not lost interest. And if you have doubt about it, look at yesterday's reports about bombings in Algeria." [By EILEEN SULLIVAN, AP]

From the Homeland Security web page:

On January 31, 2008 — The United States government's national threat level is Elevated, or Yellow

Color-coded Threat Level System is used to communicate with public safety officials and the public at-large through a threat-based, color-coded system so that protective measures can be implemented to reduce the likelihood or impact of an attack. Raising the threat condition has economic, physical, and psychological effects on the nation.

I am a member of the public who wants protected measures to be taken to reduce the likelihood the severe impacts that can follow a terrorist attack on transmission lines and pipelines. Those measures begin with terrorist considerations in this DPEIS.

PRECEDENT

There is precedent for inclusion of terrorist threats in a NEPA document for non-nuclear critical
facilities issued by DOE. This is in an environmental assessment with the title “DRAFT Environmental Assessment for the Transformation of Facilities and Infrastructure for the Non-Nuclear Production Activities Conducted at the NNSA Kansas City Plant (KCP) DOE/EA – 1592. November 14, 2007.

Within that document Table 1 lists Summary of Environmental Consequences. The table has a column heading called “Intentional Acts (Terrorism)” Section 5.2.9 of the document discusses Intentional Destructive Acts. To quote; “Per the Department of Energy’s Design Basis Threat Policy (DOE Order 470.3A), the Kansas City Plant is designated a Threat Level 4 facility and has no terrorist threat. Threat Level 4 is the lowest threat classification based on the general consequences of loss, destruction, or impact to public health and safety.”

DOE order 470.3A is a classified document so I am unable to quote from it, but it is obvious from context that DOE has a regulation in place to discuss terrorist threats to critical infrastructure. That same regulation binds DOE to apply it here, especially if it already applies to non-nuclear facilities.

SCOPING COMMENTS ON TERRORISM

I raised the issue of terrorism in my oral comments contained in the transcription “STAFF WORKSHOP BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2006

John Hiatt raised a terrorist issue contained in “REPORTER’S TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING On Wednesday, November 2, 2005 At Tuscany Suites Hotel Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Sierra Club comments of November 28, 2005 pointed out that terrorism is directly related to questions of “Impacts on human health and safety. Human health and safety are critically important issues to consider in this process. Pipelines and energy storage facilities, whether located in communities or miles from the nearest human outpost, present targets for terrorists and are potentially vulnerable to natural disasters. If terrorists were to target energy corridors within or near existing human settlements, or natural disasters were to strike, it could present significant threats to human health and safety. Vulnerabilities to natural disaster or terrorist attack and the potential human health and safety impact must be assessed when considering development of new energy corridors or when analyzing the use of existing corridors.”

The PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION OF WYOMING raised a terrorist issue in their comments of November 28, 2005 “Designation of specific energy corridors without flexibility could pose a significant threat to national security. As our country becomes more reliant upon domestic oil and gas production, we could become a larger target for domestic and foreign terrorist threats. Therefore, it is important (while keeping this process open to the public) to also maintain the integrity of our nation’s resources by allowing flexibility to designated corridors in order to respond to any threats to national security.”

The comments of Oregon Natural Resources Council on 28 Nov. 2005 not only brought up the subject of terrorism but also pointed out a logical alternative and mitigation of risk. “Decentralize energy production. Centralized energy production and the energy corridors that serve them are red hot targets for terrorism, vandalism, etc. These centralized facilities and corridors must be recognized as an anachronism of a pre-911 mind-set. The EIS must consider alternatives that would encourage decentralized energy generation and energy consumption at or near the place of production so as to
reduce the need for so many new energy corridors, while simultaneously reducing vulnerability to terrorism, market instability, etc.

Despite these comments and the inescapable logic associated with them, as well as national policy, there was no mention of terrorism in the response to comments or the DPEIS.

**MITIGATING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE VULNERABILITIES**

When we have a major power outage the public immediately asks if it was caused by terrorists. It seems strange that DOE and DOD do not raise the question in a DPEIS concerned with energy vulnerability and reliability.

For example in a newspaper story shortly after the East Coast blackout Monday, Aug. 25, 2003 reported by JOHANNA MCGEARY, we find the following.

“In those first few moments when the power went down, who didn't wonder: Is this the work of terrorists? Within an hour, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg assured us it was not. Yet we are left with a nagging worry: Even if this was an accident, could terrorists pull off something similar?”

There is no doubt that terrorists have not yet decided to attack an important underpinning to our national business and economic activities, there is also no doubt that it would be relatively easy and would require very little by way of resources or elaborate plans.

A little thought will reaffirm what the Oregon Natural Resources Council so plainly pointed out. The best way to protect ourselves is to stop making major investments in targets. A disruption in any part of a long linear transmission line will take down the whole line. The best way to avoid this is to break capabilities into smaller distributed facilities. Failing that, these facilities should be constructed in such a way as to maximize scrutiny and observation.

One of the financial difficulties we face is that investors in large energy infrastructure have not yet figured out a good way to make money on small distributed projects.

**POSITION II**

The DPEIS is deficient because the process used to determine the need for designation of specific corridors was arbitrary, capricious and opaque to the public.

**INTRODUCTION**

Unfortunately we live in an age in which some of our most cherished ideals appear to be bent toward the accumulation of wealth through influential application of well funded lobbies as well as unethical and illegal manipulations of elected officials and agency employees.

In order to forestall or deter an all too human propensity, the people have instituted legislation, regulation and a variety of rules and procedures intended to protect the public interest from these practices.

Among these are the requirements that agencies must keep their decision making open to public
scrutiny and that important agency decisions must be vetted through a public process. Additionally agencies given mandates through legislation must interpret that legislation uniformly, logically and equitably and that this process must also be submitted to public vetting, and if need be, judicial review. Openness, clarity and transparency are the hallmarks of conformity to these public safeguards.

The DPEIS falls short of these standards.

**FEDERAL RULEMAKING**

One of the methods legislated to control abuse was the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"). Section 551(4) of that act states that "‘rule’ means the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency . . . ."

Shortly after passage of the act a manual was issued which gave some interpretations of the act and its applicability. It was "Attorney General’s Manual on the Administrative Procedure Act Prepared by the United States Department of Justice Tom C. Clark, Attorney General, 1947." The manual says, "Of particular importance is the fact that "rule" includes agency statements not only of general applicability but also those of particular applicability applying either to a class or to a single person. In either case, they must be of future effect, implementing or prescribing future law."

In the absence of formal rulemaking on section 368 of the EAPAct of 2005, we have in this DPEIS our first real opportunity to comment on the rule interpreting and implementing section 368 as it is contained in the DPEIS.

I begin with 368(c). 368(c) Ongoing Responsibilities- The Secretaries, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, affected utility industries, and other interested parties, shall establish procedures under their respective authorities that--

(1) ensure that additional corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities on Federal land are promptly identified and designated as necessary; and

(2) expedite applications to construct or modify oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities within such corridors, taking into account prior analyses and environmental reviews undertaken during the designation of such corridors.

It is my interpretation of "The Secretaries, in consultation with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, affected utility industries, and other interested parties, shall establish procedures under their respective authorities that--" that the Congress means institute rulemaking that leads to regulation. It is well over 2 years since EAPAct 2005 was passed and I have yet to learn that rulemaking has started for 368(c)(1) or 368(c)(2) [I note here the absence of comment on the legislation term “Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act…”]. This means that rules are being established through a NEPA process rather than an APA process which means that I am being denied the full force and effect of APA.

There is a whole section of this DPEIS which outlines conditions implementing 368(c)(2). It is not clear to me how NEPA can be applied to the adequacy or completeness of those conditions. It is especially not clear how I might bring judicial review to a situation in which those conditions are being applied or not in a future particular project. Will the final PEIS have the full force and effect of a regulation established by rulemaking? I am concerned that it will not and that the Secretaries are arbitrarily and capriciously sidestepping their obligations.
CORRIDOR LEGISLATION AND ITS INTERPRETATION

It is clear that designation of corridors is but the beginning of a whole process which will accomplish Congress' intent with the passage of section 368. Central to that process is the need which any particular project will satisfy by using the corridor into which it proposes construction. It is important therefore that 368(c)(1) uses the word necessary and that 368(d) uses the word need in setting out parameters that define necessary and need when applied to energy infrastructure.

Early in his administration President Bush announced his administration's policy with respect to transmission lines. In a June 2001 News Release concerning The President's Energy Legislative agenda the statement was made that: “This is why President Bush directed the Secretary of Energy to work closely with state and local governments, Congress, and relevant federal agencies to develop legislation to grant authority to obtain rights-of-way for electricity transmission lines only when absolutely necessary, with the goal of creating a reliable national transmission grid.” [Emphasis added]

I agree that energy infrastructure projects on public lands should only be undertaken when absolutely necessary. What is lacking in this DPEIS is a rigorous and objective method of making that determination. The Secretaries were explicitly instructed to make that determination based on parameters that would improve reliability, relieve congestion and enhance the capability of the national grid to deliver electricity.

It is easy to say in a subjective fashion that a project located in a designated corridor would improve reliability and the DPEIS does that many times. On page 10-10 we find a non-specific and non-objective definition of reliability. “Reliability: Refers to the ability of the transmission system to deliver energy (especially electrical energy) when needed under a set of accepted standards and that avoids disruptions or outages.” This does not give us any measurable method by which we can make uniform and unbiased reliability judgements and comes no where near the sort of definition used in the industry to support applications for projects that must pass review by regulators.

A typical example is a requirement that there is sufficient power source in an area which can access transmission so that when a major generator and a major transmission link is out of service, the so called N-1/G-1 condition, an area will not go dark. It is well known in the power business how to apply that criterion to any proposed project. It is not open to debate because everybody knows what it means and there are agreed computation methods for making the determination. We are given no assurance in the DPEIS that this sort of rigor was consistently applied to the corridor selection process. The objective determination of reliability applied to each corridor is opaque to us and we have no way to determine that it was used in a fair and balanced fashion, e.g. particular designations cannot be verified on the basis of information given to us in the DPEIS.

CORRIDOR SELECTION

Appendix F gives a list of selected corridors. Chapter 2 gives us an outline of the selection process. The list in Appendix F is an arbitrary and capricious list because there is no way to determine how each specific corridor got onto the list and how it made it through the selection process as compared to those corridors that did not make the final list.

In order to know how that process actually worked we would have to have a list of all of the initial candidate corridors. We would then have to have a specified set of objective parameters and conditions
by which the candidate corridors would be judged. We would need a matrix that would show which corridors were eliminated on the basis of which parameters or conditions. The judgements would have to be made in a consistent and equitable fashion such that they could be verified by interested parties, including the project applicants themselves.

Since this information is not provided I have no way of knowing that any participants in the elimination process were not simply influenced by a lobbying effort by any person or corporation. As presented, the selection process is arbitrary, capricious and opaque.

/s/ Gene Frick
4271 Bagget Dr.
Riverside, CA 92505
gfrick@cosmoaccess.com
Thank you for your comment, Ingrid Coffin.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50332. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 12, 2008 10:58:10PM CDT
Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50332
First Name: Ingrid
Last Name: Coffin
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
I am not in favor of designating portions of 11 counties as part of the national energy corridor because part of this designated corridor is not federal land. It includes both state park and private lands. A designated national energy corridor would allow Sempra/SDG&E to force de-designation of State Wilderness lands in the construction of the Sunrise Powerlink—something never done before, setting a bad precedent for all wilderness lands, for both state and federal. We demand a complete and thorough study of all impacts for any corridor that is being considered. The current proposal is inadequate.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridorwebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Michael Strawn.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50333. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 03:01:32AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50333

First Name: Michael
Middle Initial: J
Last Name: Strawn
Address:
City:
State: MI
Zip:
Country: USA
Email:
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
The proposed designations in the Department of Energy’s Draft Programmatic EIS (PEIS) will have significant impacts to wildlife habitat, cultural resources, recreation opportunities, and many other resources on federal lands across the west.

Our western wildlands could be home to an industrial forest of powerlines and pipelines if the Department of Energy’s plan goes through as proposed. The agency’s proposed corridors would run electrical powerlines and oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines through some of our most iconic open spaces, with impacts to landscapes like Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Arches National Park, as well as many more special places like National Recreation Areas, Forest Service Roadless Areas, and proposed wilderness areas now being considered for protection by Congress.

The Department of Energy has the opportunity to not only change its plan to avoid these priceless special places on our public lands, but also help usher us into a clean, renewable energy economy.

Please ensure that:

- new pipelines or powerlines are actually needed: agencies should analyze the potential to meet growing energy demands through increased energy efficiency, distributed generation and maximizing the use of the existing power grid through technology upgrades before turning to additional or wider corridors on our public land;

- federal lands are necessary locations and special or sensitive public lands are avoided altogether: agencies should continue analyzing impacts to special public lands and moving corridors to avoid them. The agencies should use analysis provided by conservation groups to move corridors out of special places like Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and the dozens of other outstanding units which the proposed corridors would cross;

- projects are subjected to best management practices to limit damage to other resources, recreation and views: agencies should make their Interagency Operating Procedures...
mandatory;
- risks to federal and other affected lands are realistically and thoroughly assessed, so that those risks can then be avoided or minimized; agencies should analyze cumulative impacts to both federal lands and state, private, and tribal lands which will be impacted when the corridors are connected;
- once appropriate locations are identified, projects on federal lands are presumptively limited to those corridors; agencies should limit projects on federal lands to corridors;
- consideration is given to improving access for renewable energy, such as wind and solar; agencies should take the opportunity to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, limit the effects of climate change and help build a sustainable energy future for the West by seriously evaluating alternatives to maximize use of renewable energy;
- avoid wild areas pending designation: wildlands included in recently-introduced wilderness bills (such as those in Oregon, Washington, Colorado, and California) will also be impacted by the proposed corridors. Analysis of such impacts has not been completed yet, but as agencies are provided with relevant information they should consider moving or modifying corridors. Wild and Scenic Rivers that have been deemed eligible or suitable for designation should also be avoided; and
- alternatives are presented and considered; without alternatives, the public can only comment on what they don’t like about the proposed plan. The agencies (who have all of the pertinent information) should provide the public with choices – that’s why NEPA requires them to develop alternatives.

By adopting the changes above, the agencies can guarantee the protection of our priceless publicly-owned wildlands and ensure a sustainable, clean energy future for all Americans.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridor Eis webmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630) 252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, James Fisher.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50334. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 07:50:57AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50334

First Name: James
Middle Initial: E
Last Name: Fisher
Address:
City: 
State: NY
Zip: 
Country: USA
Email: 
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
To bring a half mile wide Energy corridor through a 1 mile wide town when a viable alternate route is available isn't the the best way to serve the public interest to say the least.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridorwebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Ed Lechner.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50335. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 08:13:56AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50335

First Name: Ed
Last Name: Lechner
Address: 63 Terra Lane
City: Durango
State: CO
Zip: 81303
Country: USA
Email: e.lechner@frontier.net
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
It has come to my attention that some of our federal agencies are planning so called “energy corridors” throughout the western part of our country. Personally it sounds like a federal land grab with little or any regard for the fact that people actually live in these areas, not to mention the wildlife and the natural beauty. Also I see it as a ploy to dump a bunch of coal fired power plants in the west and that that portends the possibility of our becoming a "national sacrifice area". Personally I am tired of the Washington bureaucrats not looking beyond the Ohio River and making decisions that have huge impacts on the American West with little if any regard for the implications. 50335-001

However, looking forward to the fact that I might have to accept the reality of this boondoggle, I would urge you to strive to plan these corridors to avoid our most sensitive landscapes and wildlife habitats, be limited in number and scope, and facilitate the connection of renewable energy sources to the power grid. 50335-002

I would also ask that you analyze more than one alternative, including alternatives with energy efficiency and renewable energy scenarios and those that maximize the use of existing power lines through upgrades. 50335-003

That you would analyze the environmental impacts now instead of waiting until right-of-way applications are filed. 50335-004

Consider more cumulative impacts of the corridors, including impacts on air quality and climate change (especially if the corridors are targeted for more coal plants in the region) and impacts to private, state, and tribal lands where a corridor “ends.” 50335-005

That you would consider conditioning future right-of-way approvals within corridors such that each new connecting power source does not exceed the carbon dioxide and other emissions of a combined-cycle natural gas plant (roughly 1,100 lbs. of CO2 per megawatt-hour of produced energy). 50335-006

And that you ensure that future transmission projects are required to be within designated corridors “to the maximum extent practicable” to maximize the full benefit of the corridor, while still allowing appropriate flexibility. 50335-007

Thank you for your consideration..... Ed Lechner
Thank you for your comment, Margaret Schaff.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WNECD50336. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 08:28:41AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WNECD50336

First Name: Margaret
Last Name: Schaff
Organization: Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians
Address: 749 Deer Trail Road
City: Boulder
State: CO
Zip: 80302
Country: USA
Email: msc@att.net
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record
Attachment: /Users/schaff/clock-desktop/168_021308.pdf

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridorrelewebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
February 13, 2008

Comments of Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians on West-wide Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS

Please allow the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) to submit the following comments to the West Wide Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS. ATNI’s members comprise the 54 Native American Indian Tribes in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Western Montana. ATNI-EDC represents issues relevant to its membership including issues related to energy matters.

Indian lands are federal lands held “in trust” for Indian tribes, giving Indian lands a special status that should not be confused with federal lands under the sole control of federal agencies. The federal trust responsibility is the fiduciary responsibility of all federal agencies managing resources that impact tribal resources. A fiduciary responsibility is the obligation to manage resources in the best interests of the beneficiaries, in this case, the Indian Tribes. All natural and cultural resources important to Indian Tribes can be impacted by federal actions. The federal agencies making decisions impacting tribal resources have a trust responsibility to actively protect tribal resources.

These resources can be found both on Indian Reservations and lands and on other lands. Federal agencies have a trust obligation to Indian Tribes whether or not impacted resources are within reservation boundaries.

Indian lands are currently home to numerous energy facilities including pipelines, electric transmission lines and substations, dams, power plants, and oil and gas production. These energy facilities were often sited on tribal lands without tribal approval or consent. Such siting on tribal lands was likely in a breach of the federal trust responsibility. Only in more recent years has there been the recognition that tribes have a right to consent to their land uses, and must approve of the terms and conditions for any uses of their lands. Tribal consent includes the absolute ability of tribal governments to outright reject the use of their lands for energy or other purposes inconsistent with tribal policy. There is no right of eminent domain on Tribal Trust lands. This absolute right of tribes to set policies for trust lands stems from the inherent sovereignty of tribes, and the fact that tribal reservations, and tribal rights to resources, such as the rights to hunt and fish in the usual and customary places (including lands off of the reservations) were recognized by the United States government by treaties or other federal actions that have the force and
effect of federal statute. The treaties were negotiations for which Indian people fought and
died in order to maintain certain rights and resources for their people and for all their
future peoples. These treaties and the land rights and other rights held by Indian people
may not now be abrogated through regulatory processes.

Therefore, Indian lands must be excepted from any designation as energy corridors under
this process. No Indian lands may be designated for uses that are inconsistent with the
purposes for which they were “reserved” under federal treaties or other federal laws.
Indian Reservations were created and reserved as homelands for Indian people and as
places for which Indian people could practice their cultures and religions, and for which
the tribes themselves are solely able to set policies for land uses. Indian tribes are
sovereign governments that have absolute authority over the uses for their lands.

Therefore, in cases where energy corridors are designated on lands adjacent to Indian
Reservations, land managers in this process have a duty to contact each such tribe and
inform them of the situation and request their input and approval. If tribal leadership
objects to a corridor approaching their lands, that corridor should be moved.

Indian rights to hunt and fish or to maintain their cultural places extend off reservation
lands, and are also rights that are subject to the federal trust responsibility. The federal
government, through Executive Order, as well as a number of individual federal agencies
maintain policies and are obligated to enter into Government to Government consultation
when tribal resources are or may be impacted. This consultation must be had with each
and every tribe which may be impacted by the designation of energy corridors. Each tribe
may have specific treaty or trust issues to be addressed. The agencies are required during
this process to honor existing federal laws and to honor its trust responsibility. To date,
very little direct consultation has taken place. This consultation should not only be at the
request of tribes but should be initiated by federal agencies.

Not all tribes object to these corridors. Many tribes seek access to new infrastructure.
Tribes are often resource developers. Many tribes have oil and gas resources but
insufficient access to pipelines. Tribes also have wind and other renewable energy or
conventional resources with little access to electric transmission. Where tribes are
interested in having corridors cross their lands should be given the opportunity to discuss
the possibility with federal agencies.

Thank you for consideration of these comments. Questions can be directed to:

Margaret Schaff
Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
Energy Director
(303) 443-0182
mschaff@att.net
From: correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 8:30 AM
To: mail.correidoreisarchives
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEDCD50337

Thank you for your comment, Ole Bye.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEDCD50337. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008  08:30:02AM CDT
Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEDCD50337

First Name: Ole
Last Name: Bye
State: IL
Zip:
Country: USA
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
Please consider and avoid delicate mountain and desert ecology. Please use existing rights of way whenever possible. Please encourage small-scale, localized electricity generation to improve security, and reduce transmission needs. Please plan for renewable energy generation such as wind, geothermal, and solar. Thank you.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: corredeiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 9:42 AM
To: mail.corredeisarchives
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWED0338

Thank you for your comment, ellen sargent.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWED0338. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 09:41:55AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWED0338

First Name: ellen
Middle Initial: m
Last Name: sargent
Address: p.o. box 226
City: Indian springs
State: NY
Zip: 89018
Country: USA
Email: emspsargent@sboglobal.net
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Energy Corridor PEIS: I support the designation of the energy corridor on the south side of Grandpa Mountain near Indian Springs, Nevada.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corredeiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Lyn Southworth.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50339. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 09:53:23 AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50339

First Name: Lyn
Last Name: Southworth
Address:
City:
State: CA
Zip:
Country: USA
Email:
Privacy Preference: Withhold address only from public record

Comment Submitted:
This project destroys and defaces the desert surrounding the metropolitan area in order to provide energy for the urban areas. We have to implement energy conservation along with a limited version of this project to provide some balance.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6192.
Thank you for your comment, Sam & Astrid Webb.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50340. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008  09:57:39AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50340

First Name: Sam & Astrid
Last Name: Webb
Organization: Volunteers Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
Address: PO Box 2268
City: Borrego Springs
State: CA
Zip: 92004-2268
Country: USA
Email: swebb8ula.net
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
We are Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center, Archaeology and Site Steward volunteers in the most beautiful Desert State Park in the country and we feel that electrical transmission power lines/towers via this proposed energy corridor are not appropriate for any Parks or wilderness areas, be they state or federal lands. Parks were formed and are held in trust for future generations. It is our responsibility as the current custodians to preserve and protect them from outside impacts so that future generations can continue to enjoy their pristine beauty.

Sam and Astrid Webb

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: correдал席eswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Jerry Hughes.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50341. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 10:21:09AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50341

First Name: Jerry
Last Name: Hughes
Address: 2810 Union St. Apt. 14
City: San Diego
State: CA
Zip: 92103
Country: USA
Email: jerry_hughes2@yahoo.com
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Hello,

I am strongly against the Powerlink being built across any of our state park lands, whether it be Anza-Borrego Desert State Park or Cuyamaca Rancho State Park! One of the biggest issues is the fact that this powerline will “seregulate” or make null and void the Wilderness Act. Are you kidding me with this?? We have so little land left in the lower 48 states, that is set aside for quality use by the American public, that continuing to take away even more land is simply not acceptable.

This action will set a very dangerous precedent which will only snowball, involving more state parks and eventually our treasured National Parks. Please do not allow this injustice to take place and help protect the little public land we have left. Thank you.

Jerry Hughes

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Hal Brown.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50342. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 10:32:31 AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50342

First Name: Hal
Middle Initial: S
Last Name: Brown
Organization: Lone Cone HOA
Address: 5097 CR U31
Address 2: Basin Rt #22
City: Redvale
State: CO
Zip: 81431
Country: USA
Email: hbrown@fene.net
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
My permanent home is in the Lone Cone Ranches subdivision in Dolores County. I got that place because of the isolation and natural beauty in this part of the country. I realize that increased population involves additional energy distribution, but wonder why such a wide right of way is necessary. I want you to really consider this size and see if it can be reduced.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corndoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: corrioreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 10:41 AM
To: mail_corrioreis@archives, corrioreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WUECD50343
Attachments: APS_comments_on_368_corridors_2-13-08_part1_WUECD50343.doc

Thank you for your comment, Paul Herndon.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WUECD50343. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 10:41:22AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WUECD50343

First Name: Paul
Middle Initial: E
Last Name: Herndon
Organization: Arizona Public Service Company
Address: PO Box 51933 Station 4609
City: Phoenix
State: AZ
Zip: 85072-3993
Country: USA
Email: paul.herndon@aps.com
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record
Attachment: W:\WORD\APS comments on 368 corridors 2-13-08 part 1.doc

Comment Submitted:
APS' comments will be submitted in two parts. This is part 1, part two (attachment 3 map) is being submitted in another form as only one attachment is allowed per form.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corrioreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)282-5182.
Wednesday, February 13, 2008

West-Wide Energy Corridor DEIS
Argonne National Laboratory
9700 S. Cass Avenue
Building 300, Mail Stop 4
Argonne, IL 60439

RE: APS Comments on the West-wide Energy Corridors Draft PEIS

Arizona Public Service Company ("APS") appreciates the opportunity to make additional comments on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement ("DPEIS") implementing Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. APS filed our original comments on November 28, 2005 and made supplemental comments on the draft corridor maps on July 10, 2006. Although we will not repeat our original comments in this submittal, we wish to reiterate and re-emphasize the general comments contained in the previous filings. We do note that some of the corridors recommended by APS have been included in the latest West-wide Corridor Maps and we appreciate that consideration. However, we believe for the West-wide Corridor effort to achieve its ultimate goal, to meet the needs for future planned electric transmission infrastructure in the Southwest, all of our previously recommended corridors should be incorporated into the process and some existing corridors should be widened.

Attached with this correspondence is a map of the state of Arizona that we have labeled Attachment 3. This map identifies corridors that have been included in the West-wide Energy Corridors DPEIS; corridors that contain existing transmission facilities that should be widened; and corridors with no existing transmission facilities that should be designated for future facilities. We believe that these additional corridors must be included to enable future planned projects to transport the remote base load generation to the load pockets around the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. A decision not to include them in this process could be incorrectly perceived by the public or other groups that they are not needed or in some way are less important than the corridors that were included in the DPEIS effort, which is not the case.

With regard to the DPEIS planned corridor width of 3,500 feet, APS believes, and others in the electric industry agree, that the 3,500 foot corridor widths are inadequate. This is primarily related to the fact that some existing corridors contain multiple lines. For example, the APS Cholla to Pinnacle Peak Substation corridor already contains two 345kV transmission lines. Establishing this corridor with a width of 3,500-feet could limit its use for additional lines because of reliability separation considerations and the need to deal with terrain and environmental resource issues. Additionally, some corridors have multiple uses (electric, petroleum pipelines etc.); these corridors should be widened for the same reasons stated above. Additionally, some previously established corridors on federal lands in Arizona are wider than 3,500 feet. For example, the Palo Verde to North Gila Substation corridor as indicated in the BLM's Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan is one-mile wide. As we stated in our original correspondence, we believe that a more reasonable width for these corridors should be a minimum of one-mile and corridors of up to three miles wide would enable optimal flexibility during engineering and design of the facilities.

As we expressed in our original filing in November of 2005, APS has initiated feasibility studies to analyze the possibility of bringing additional load serving resources from Wyoming to Arizona through
the development of the TransWest Express Project (TWEP). The TWEP would consist of new a
500kV DC line to transport these new resources to Arizona. The TWEP is currently being managed
by National Grid on behalf of several potential utility participants in the project. APS wants the official
record in this DEIS process to show that we support the recommendations for corridors for the
TransWest Express Project filed by National Grid on behalf of the TWEP participants.

APS has also initiated a process to work with all six National Forests in Arizona, through their Forest
Plan Revision Process, to encourage the maintenance and expansion of existing utility corridors while
giving serious consideration to the adoption of new corridors in their updated Forest Plans necessary
for future infrastructure development. These new corridors may supplement those identified through
PDEIS based on the specific resource needs of APS.

We hope that these recommendations will be considered and we appreciate the difficult task that the
DEIS effort entails. We at APS stand ready to assist in any effort that will help ensure reliable,
affordable, and safe electric service to our customers now and into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Bernosky
Paul Hendon
Mike DeWitt
Project Managers
Transmission and Facility Siting
From: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 10:49 AM
To: [email obscured] Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEDS0344
Attachments: Potential_Corridors AZ_room_013108_WWECDS0344.pdf

Potential_Corridors
AZE_2008_01

Thank you for your comment, P Herndon.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEDS0344. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 10:48:48AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEDS0344

First Name: P
Middle Initial: E
Last Name: Herndon
Organization: Arizona Public Service Company
Address: PO Box 51933 Station 6009
City: Phoenix
State: AZ
Zip: 85072-3933
Country: USA
Email: pherndon@cox.net
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record
Attachment: C:\Documents and Settings\b45318\Desktop\Potential_Corridors_AZ_room_013108.pdf

Comment Submitted:
APS part 2 (attachment 3 map).

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoriswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: correoleiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 10:58 AM
To: mail_correoleisarchives, correoleiswebmaster@anl.gov
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEDS00345
Attachments: Consultationletter_WWEDS00345.doc

Consultationletter_WWEDS00345.doc

Thank you for your comment, Mark Altaha.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEDS00345. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 10:58:00AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEDS00345

First Name: Mark
Middle Initial: T
Last Name: Altaha
Organization: White Mountain Apache Tribe
Address: PO Box 507
City: Fort Apache
State: AZ
Zip: 85926
Country: USA
Email: markaltaha@msn.com
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record
Attachment: C:\Documents and Settings\THP0\Desktop\Consultationletter.doc

Comment Submitted:
In regards to the proposed project please refer to the attached document. Feel free to contact the tribe's THPO Office should there be further question(s) and/or concerns. Thank you for you continued collaboration in the effort to preserve and protect Cultural Heritage Resources.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at correoleiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at 608-252-6182.
White Mountain Apache Tribe Heritage Program  
PO Box 507 Fort Apache, AZ 85926

To: Energy Corridor PEIS.  
Date: February 13, 2008  
Proposed Project: West-wide Energy Corridor DEIS.

The White Mountain Apache Historic Preservation Office (THPO) appreciates receiving information on the proposed project, dated February 7, 2008. In regards to this, please attend to the checked items below:

► There is no need to send additional information unless project planning or implementation results in the discovery of sites and/or items having known or suspected Apache Cultural affiliation.

☐ The proposed project is located within an area of probable cultural or historical importance to the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT). As part of the effort to identify historical properties that may be affected by the project we recommend an ethnohistorical study and interviews with Apache Elders. The Cultural Resource Director, Mr. Ramon Raley would be the contact person at (928) 338-4625 should this become necessary.

☐ The proposed project is located within or adjacent to a known historic property of cultural concern and/or historical importance to the White Mountain Apache Tribe and will most likely result in adverse affect to said property. Considering this, please refrain from further steps in project planning and/or implementation.

► Please refer to the attached additional notes in regards to the proposed project:

We have received and reviewed the information regarding the West-wide Energy Corridor DEIS, and at this point in time we feel the project will not have an effect on the tribe's Traditional Cultural Heritage Resources and/or historic properties. The project may proceed with the understanding that all ground disturbance be monitored if there are reasons to believe subsurface artifacts are present, and in the event subsurface materials and/or human remains are encountered all construction activities are to be stopped and the proper authorities and/or affiliated tribe(s) be notified to evaluate the situation.

We look forward to continued collaborations in the protection and preservation of places of cultural and historical significance.

Sincerely,

Mark T. Altaha  
White Mountain Apache Tribe  
Historic Preservation Officer  
1 (928) 338-3033 Fax: 338-6055
Thank you for your comment, Nancy Kroening.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50346. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 11:00:18AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50346

First Name: Nancy
Last Name: Kroening
Address: 123 East Calaver Road
City: Phoenix
State: AZ
Zip: 85022
Country: USA
Email: greeniefrost@yahoo.com
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Dear People:

This entire project does not make sense. If all the money and effort put into this were, instead, put into renewable, solar, wind energy instead, we would be getting somewhere. Transmission lines EAT power like a huge monster gobbling up our future! It’s like living in a bad dream, doing the same thing again and again, and expecting a different outcome. Isn’t that the definition of insanity?

The desert needs to live, not, again, be destroyed. The green plants that have overtaken Phoenix’s wild areas are impressive! They cover every tiny mini-inch of the North Mountain Park! They provide oxygen and a holding place for other seeds. Ripping up more desert to supply electricity when it can be supplied by solar and wind violates every principle of sustainability. And we DO NOT want more nuclear. Obama Barack simply does not know whereof he speaks.

I sincerely hope this project is dropped.

Nancy Kroening

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
From: correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2008 11:15 AM
To: mail.correidoreisarchives
Subject: Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Comment WWEC50347

Thank you for your comment, Mathew Fuzie.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEC50347. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 11:14:56AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEC50347

First Name: Mathew
Middle Initial: L
Last Name: Fuzie
Address: Route 1 Box 60
City: Carmel
State: CA
Zip: 93923
Country: USA
Email: allxfuzie@yahoo.com
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Creating a National Energy Corridor through other than federally owned lands including State Wilderness is a bad practice at best and a dangerous precedent at worst. A complete impact study by an independent agency should be required to be completed before any such designation should even be considered. I am absolutely opposed to decommissioning State Wilderness for this purpose.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at correidoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Deborah Sperberg.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWBCD50348. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 11:33:07AM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWBCD50348

First Name: Deborah
Last Name: Sperberg
State: CA
Zip: 92004
Country: USA
Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Please avoid any state park land and state wilderness areas in determining routes for power lines. They are a blight that in our desert will be visible for miles and will seriously impact culturally sensitive areas.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at: corridoreiwebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS Webmaster at (630)252-6182.
Thank you for your comment, Robert Barelmann.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is WWEC50349. Once the comment response document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: February 13, 2008 12:00:51 PM CDT

Energy Corridor Draft Programmatic EIS
Draft Comment: WWEC50349

First Name: Robert
Last Name: Barelmann
Address: 6510 Franciscan Road
City: Carlsbad
State: CA
Zip: 92011
Country: USA
Email: ecp@roadrunner.com
Privacy Preference: Don’t withhold name or address from public record

Comment Submitted:
Simply stated, the federal government should let the local jurisdictions, in my case California, reservations & local governments, make decisions on discretionary development permits. What’s good for California may not be good for Iowa or Arizona and vice versa.

In the case of the Sunrise Powerlink, millions of manhours of time have been dedicated to presenting & evaluating the merits of the project. It should be illegal for the Federal Government to overrule the conclusions made by our state and its regulators.

It is dictatorial, in nature, for the Federal Government to paint over huge swaths of land with a magic wand and declaring it open season for excavation, building city structures and disrupting our land at the whim of any applicant’s choice. What happened to State’s Rights?
Isn’t it bad enough if California regulators approve this disruption of our land? At least I have some local representation who will listen and evaluate California concerns? Somehow it is much cozier than having an appointee by Bush and Cheney, together with their hand picked organization and conflict of interest, make the choice on “energy issues”. So stated, by a life-long Republican.

The law authorizing energy corridors ought to be unconstitutional and hopefully will be legally challenged or amended in due time.