

**DINÉ POWER AUTHORITY**

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July 10, 2006

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Room 8H-033  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

***RE: Comment on the Preliminary Draft Energy Corridor Map***

Diné Power Authority, a Navajo Nation enterprise created to develop utility scale transmission and generation for the benefit of the Navajo people, requests that a utility corridor alignment be added to those currently under consideration by the Department of Energy as part of the development of the West-wide Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS.

DPA is developing the Navajo Transmission Project, (NTP), a proposed high-voltage transmission line from the Shiprock Substation in northwestern New Mexico, extending approximately 470 miles and terminating at the Marketplace Substation in southern Nevada. DPA has been working with numerous federal land management agencies that would be crossed by the NTP including the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Service. DPA has additionally had significant interactions with the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Western Area Power Administration (Western) during the life of the project. These agencies were party to the development of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Final EIS, and Record of Decision in 1996 and 1997.

The initial feasibility studies for the NTP included the evaluation of approximately 1,800 miles of alternatives within a 38,000 square mile area throughout four western states, including New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada. Later studies conducted by DPA during the development of the EIS included the evaluation of over 2,200 miles of alternative alignments within New Mexico, Arizona, and New Mexico. The EIS evaluated a series of alternative routes west of Cameron, Arizona in order to connect the eastern portion of the NTP with its intended terminus in southern Nevada, as noted on the attached Figure 1. These routes included an option to cross the Hualapai Indian Reservation, a sovereign nation, and two options to cross federal, state, and private lands to the south of the reservation. Based on a comprehensive environmental resource analysis required by NEPA guidelines, as well as public input from numerous comment providers and engineering and cost considerations, it was determined that a route across

the Hualapai Reservation, labeled as Route N1W in the EIS, was the best environmental route to connect Cameron, Arizona to southern Nevada. The EIS studies further determined that a route immediately south of the Hualapai Reservation, labeled as Route N2 in the EIS, was the second-best environmental route.

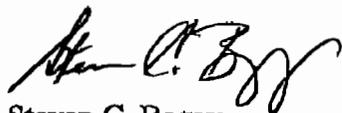
In 1997, a Record of Decision was issued by Western recommending that Route N1W be the preferred route for the construction of the NTP. In 2000, the Arizona Corporation Commission, the state regulatory authority for the development of generation and transmission facilities, agreed with the recommendations of the ROD and issued a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for Route N1W, with an option to build the N2 alignment.

DPA appreciates that portions of the proposed NTP route on the Kaibab National Forest, as well as the portion of the route west of the Hualapai Reservation on BLM and National Park Service land have been included in the preliminary draft of potential utility corridors under consideration by the DOE. We respectfully request that the N2 Route alignment, specifically the portion shown on the attached Figure 2, be considered as a potential energy corridor in the next draft of the West-wide Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS.

If you have any questions or seek any clarifications regarding this information, please contact me at 928-871-2133.

Sincerely,

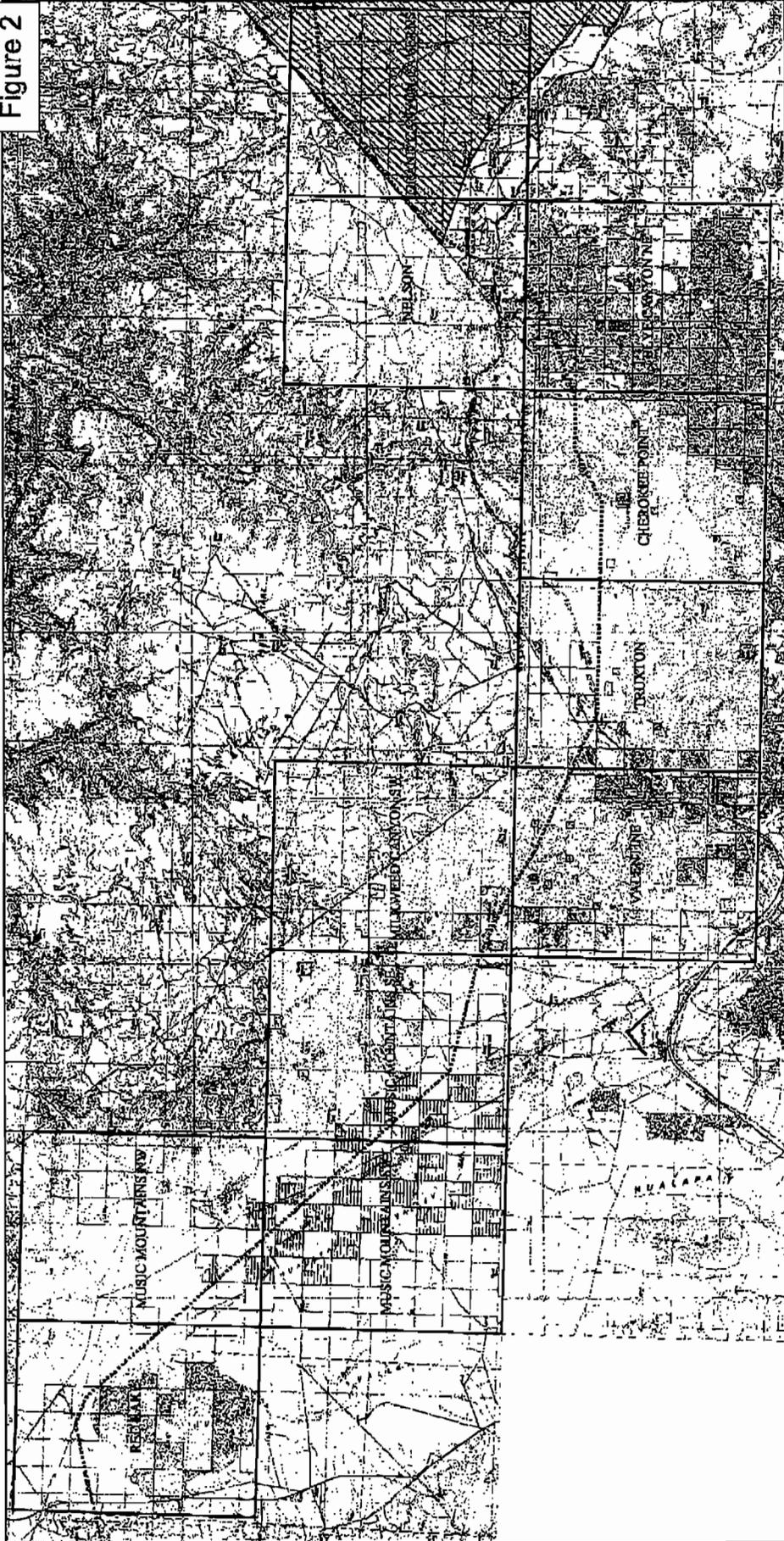
**DINÉ POWER AUTHORITY (DPA)**



Steven C. Begay  
General Manager

Xc: DPA Board Member

Figure 2



1" = 100,000 FEET INDEX

- Land Ownership and Jurisdiction**
- Percent of Land Management (BLM)
  - Indian Reservation
  - State Land
  - Private Land
  - Big Hauling Ranch

- General Reference**
- Proposed Transmission Corridor
  - 1/2 Mile Quadrangle Boundary

0 1 2 3 4  
Miles

NORTH

### LAND OWNERSHIP AND JURISDICTION

SEGMENT 34-NZ ROUTE

RIGHT-OF-WAY MAPPING  
SCALE - 1:100,000

DRAFT: November 14, 2005  
c:\proj\scd\p\path\w\segment34\_gi.mxd

NAVAJO TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT





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# Diné Power Authority

To: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Fax: (202) 586-1472

From: Steven C. Begay, General Manager Date: 7/10/06

Re: Comment on the Preliminary Draft Energy Corridor Map

Pages: 5 Including cover sheet

Urgent  For Review  Please Comment  Please Reply  Please Recycle

Notes:

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office at (928) 871-2133.

