

Meeting - November 2, 2005 @7:04 p.m.
West-Wide Energy Corridor Peis Public Scoping Meeting

NV06-NV10

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WEST-WIDE ENERGY CORRIDOR
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

ORIGINAL

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING

On Wednesday, November 2, 2005

At 7:04 p.m.

At Tuscany Suites Hotel

Las Vegas, Nevada

Reported by: Deborah Ann Hines, CCR #473, RPR

1 impact study. Everything is very much a public open
2 process, as for example the court reporter being here
3 this evening. There are no provisions for anonymity
4 or secret meetings of any kind. But I do appreciate
5 the question because it afforded me the opportunity
6 to provide the answer.

7 And as far as timetable is concerned, all I
8 can really tell you at this point at this early stage
9 in the process is that we hope to have a Draft
10 Environmental Impact Statement ready for your
11 consideration sometime in the latter part of the
12 summer of '06.

13 And I would now like to inquire as to
14 whether anybody else would like to speak, especially
15 those people that arrived. Oh, we do have two more
16 names here, thank you. John Hiatt of the Red River
17 Audubon Society. And, John, as did the previous
18 speaker please spell your name for the court
19 reporter.

NV07

20 JOHN HIATT: John Hiatt, H-i-a-t-t, and
21 that's actually Red Rock Audubon Society. We don't
22 have any rivers here. We wish we did.

23 Nevada is kind of unique in the country
24 because of the very large amount of public land we
25 have and our wide open spaces. And so when we talk

1 about designating corridors, of which we already have
2 quite a significant number, we naturally are
3 concerned about where these corridors might go, these
4 new corridors which will significantly affect our
5 open spaces, our wildlife habitat and the way of life
6 or quality of life for people in Nevada.

7 As you probably are aware, the Sage Grouse
8 almost made the endangered species list, and was
9 really only not put on the endangered species list
10 because of the efforts of the states, particularly
11 the state of Nevada, in coming up with conservation
12 plans that will do something for the Sage Grouse.

13 Power lines are a very significant hazard to
14 Sage Grouse. Within a couple of miles either side of
15 the power line there will essentially be no Sage
16 Grouse because of the opportunities provided for
17 perch sites for raptors. So power lines do have a
18 very negative impact on Sage Grouse.

19 They also have a negative impact on many
20 other birds. If you go to any big power line here in
21 town or out in the country, you walk along that power
22 line in spring or fall you'll find dead birds
23 underneath it all the time just because they collide
24 with those wires. They're thick. So these power
25 lines are killing thousands of birds all the time.

1 Most people are not aware of that because predators
2 pick up those bodies and we don't ever see them, but
3 they're there.

4 And so the impacts on wildlife and on
5 unfragmented habitat really need to be considered.
6 I've heard it said that we really need to have a lot
7 more corridors so that we're protected in case
8 terrorists want to do something to it. Well,
9 terrorists can take down power lines and can
10 interrupt power supply whether they're close together
11 or far apart. And for our people so that we are not
12 the victims of terrorists of our own terrorism, we
13 need to minimize corridors, make those corridors as
14 efficient as possible and minimize the impact on the
15 landscape. Thank you.

16 JERRY PELL: Thank you very much, Mr. Hiatt.
17 We appreciate your thoughts. They're not dissimilar
18 from comments we've heard in previous locals, and we
19 will certainly consider them during the course of
20 preparing the PEIS.

21 I should mention, by the way, just for the
22 record, I hope I mentioned it earlier, but we're
23 looking at not just electricity but we're also
24 looking at oil, gas and hydrogen pipelines and the
25 entire spectrum of energy corridors.

1 I have another speaker here that has
2 requested to speak, Don Malisani of Vista
3 Corporation. Did I pronounce that correctly?

4 DON MALISANI: Yes, you did.

5 JERRY PELL: Thank you. If you'd be kind
6 enough to just clarify the spelling for our court
7 reporter.

NV08

8 DON MALISANI: Sure. My name is Don
9 Malisani. I'm the manager of the real estate
10 department for Vista Corp. Malisani is
11 M-a-l-i-s-a-n-i.

12 Vista Corporation is a natural gas and
13 electric utility, more distribution orientated. We
14 do have generation and transmission facilities and
15 look at this opportunity to establish new corridors
16 as being something of need, great need to the country
17 and see this as being a timely measure. Very
18 concerned that, you know, we do meet the federal
19 process and identify corridors and locate them in the
20 best spots to protect wildlife and whatnot.

21 So with that said, there's many corridors
22 that exist, and it's our hope that all those are
23 identified. The western utility group has supplied
24 maps of existing corridors and priority corridors.
25 Hopefully those will be considered.