

PUBLIC MEETING FOR
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT,
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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HELD BY: : **REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT**
MEETING DATE:
: October 26, 2005
MEETING TIME: 2:00 p.m.
Bureau of Land Management :
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Forest Service

MODERATOR:
Scott Powers, BLM

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1 have successfully, the local company being Questar, to
2 provide federal regulated pipelines across the
3 reservation. We believe that is best done between the
4 service provider and the tribe itself, and we also think
14:46:00 5 that's a requirement of law.

6 So we will be submitting written testimony
7 for your consideration. We appreciate the opportunity.
8 We understand the undertaking, but as you take a look at
9 the west, you can't say "west" without saying "Indian
14:46:20 10 reservation," and so there are literally, I believe,
11 almost 30 million acres in the Rocky Mountains owned by
12 tribal allottees and organizations. So thank you very
13 much.

UT05

14 MR. POWERS: Thank you. Mr. James Tucker,
14:46:39 15 Deseret Power.

16 MR. TUCKER: Pleased to be with you today to
17 express concerns that have occurred in my lifetime over
18 the last 30 years of transmission planning. They deal
19 with the notion of trying to compact electric
14:47:07 20 transmission lines into single corridors. Certainly the
21 result that occurred a couple of years ago with the
22 northeast blackout emphasized the notion -- the focus on
23 reliability that occurs when transmission lines are in a
24 single corridor, and subject to the same type of
14:47:30 25 disturbance. Last summer, in St. George -- there's

1 three transmission lines that service St. George and
2 they're all on same corridor, and fire took all three of
3 them out. Two of the lines were able to be restored,
4 they're on steel structures, and the outage was
5 tolerable.

14:47:52

6 But the concern is that as you have a
7 transmission corridor, the idea -- the normal inkling of
8 everyone is to pack all the transmission lines in that.
9 And with electricity it's a little bit different than
10 gas. There is no storage of electricity. The load and
11 the generation have to balance at every instant in time.
12 And a half-second outage is enough to wipe out the
13 system.

14:48:08

14 And so it's a concern that should be
15 considered, particularly with the push for reliability
16 that came out of the disturbance in the northeast last
17 year and the push that America and others are doing to
18 make sure that we plan the system so we can lose all the
19 transmission lines on a corridor. You can see that if
20 you have to plan to lose all the transmission lines on a
21 corridor, but yet you're required to put all the
22 transmission lines in the same corridor, I mean, there's
23 no solution to that problem. And so I would just
24 suggest that it's important to think about the physical
25 nature of transmission -- electric transmission lines in

14:48:45

14:49:01

1 focusing on how much we pack into one corridor. Thank
2 you. UT06

3 MR. POWERS: Thank you. Mike Peterson, Utah
4 River Electric Association.

14:49:24

5 MR. PETERSON: Thank you. The Utah River
6 Electric Association represents ten rural electric
7 cooperatives that provide electricity to rural parts of
8 Utah. We're excited about the prospect of streamlining
9 the process for permitting and particularly want to make

14:49:46

10 sure that small organizations that have transmission and
11 distribution facilities are also included in your
12 corridors. One of our electric cooperatives, the
13 service territory that has -- includes -- 95 percent of
14 the land where it has transmission/distribution
15 facilities are federal lands.

14:50:04

16 The cost of permitting right now for a
17 particular line have already exceeded the costs to
18 upgrade the line that is planned to be built. So we
19 want to make sure and ensure that when we end up with a
20 map that it does include some of those distribution
21 facilities for those smaller utilities that serve across
22 federal lands, park service, Forest Service, BLM, and
23 make sure that that process is something that is doable
24 for them.

14:50:23

14:50:40

25 We are willing to participate in any