

# Corridor 37-39

## East Apex Connector

### Introduction

Corridor 37-39 extends west-east from the southeast corner of the Desert National Wildlife Range in Nevada and extends east 9.0 miles to intersect with Corridors 39-113 and 39-231. Federally-designated portions of this corridor are entirely on BLM-administered land, with a 3,500-ft width over most of its length, but narrowing to approximately 1,800 feet in some areas due to the limits of federal land. It is designated as a multi-modal corridor that can accommodate both electrical transmission and pipeline projects. The corridor spans a 9.0-mile distance, with 9.0 designated centerline miles. The designated area is 2,567 acres/ 4.01 square miles. This corridor is in Clark County in Nevada and entirely in the BLM Southern Nevada District Office (DO). This corridor is also entirely in Priority Region 1 for purposes of the regional review.



Figure 1. Corridor 224-225 (Key for Figures 1-2 can be found on the last page of the abstract)



Figure 2. Corridor 37-39, including existing energy infrastructure

## Corridor Rationale

During scoping for the West-wide Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS (WVEC PEIS), routes generally following this route were suggested by Maximus USA. The Kern River natural gas pipeline follows the northwestern portion of the corridor, and it is crossed by six transmission lines: AEP Energy Services, Inc. (230 kV), Nevada Power Co. (69 kV), Nevada Power Co. (138 kV), Nevada Power Co. (230 kV), Nevada Power Co. (500 kV), and Lincoln County Power District (69 kV); a Southwest Gas Corp. natural gas pipeline; a UNEV petroleum product pipeline; a railroad; and Interstate 15 (I-15). There is one pending right-of-way (ROW) application in the corridor. Platts data indicate conceptual routes for four more projects crossing the corridor at perpendicular angles, including Inland Line, Zephyr Power Transmission Project, and two Centennial II lines. Two natural gas and two solar power plants are near this short corridor to the north.

## Corridor of Concern Status

This corridor was not identified in the Settlement Agreement as a Corridor of Concern.

## Corridor Analysis

### Energy Planning Opportunities

- Appropriate and acceptable uses
- WVEC Purpose (e.g., renewable energy)
- Transmission and pipeline capacity opportunity

### Energy Planning Concerns

- Physical barrier
- Jurisdictional concern
- Corridor alignment and spacing

- Transmission and pipeline capacity concern

### Land Management Responsibilities and Environmental Concerns

- Acoustics
- Air quality
- Climate change
- Cultural resources
- Ecological resources
- Environmental Justice
- Hydrological resources
- Lands and Realty

- Lands with wilderness characteristics
- Livestock Grazing
- Paleontology
- Public Access and Recreation
- Socioeconomics
- Soils/erosion
- Specially designated areas
- Tribal concerns
- Visual resources
- Wild horses and burros

### Interagency Operating Procedures

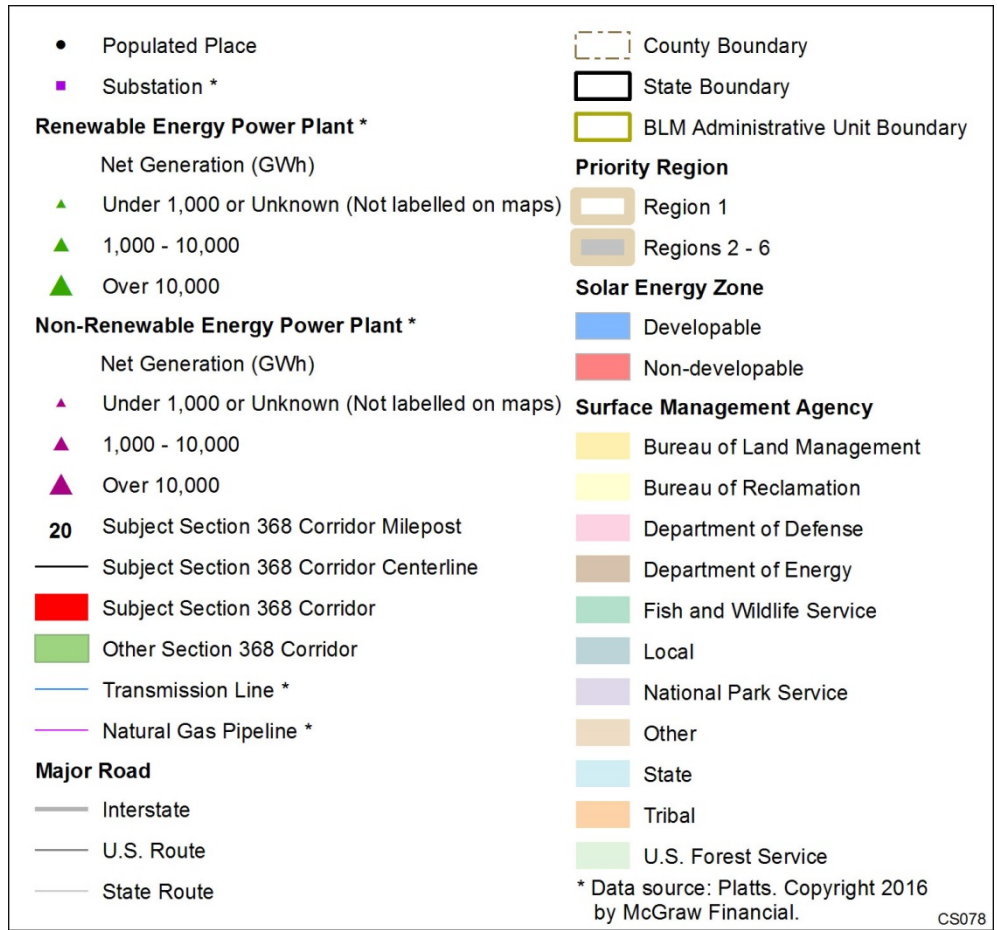
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/ Opportunity	Length of Affected Corridor (by Milepost [MP])	Source/Context	BLM Review and Analysis
<b>ENERGY PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES</b>							
<i>Appropriate and Acceptable Uses</i>							
37-39 .001	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Kern River natural gas pipeline	MP 0.0 to 1.3	GIS Analysis	Not a constraint. Proposed project siting and collocation alternatives to address impacts would be

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							analyzed as part of the project specific environmental analysis required under NEPA and other federal law.
37-39 .002	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Substation in corridor	MP 1.2	GIS Analysis	Not a constraint. Proposed project siting and collocation alternatives to address impacts would be analyzed as part of the project specific environmental analysis required under NEPA and other federal law.
37-39 .003	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Unknown structure in corridor	MP 1.3	GIS Analysis	Not a constraint. Structure is part of Kern River gas line ROW (N-42581). Proposed project siting and collocation alternatives to address impacts would be analyzed as part of the project specific environmental analysis required under NEPA and other federal law.
<b>WWEC Purpose</b>							
37-39 .004	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	The Dry Lake SEZ	MP 7.4	GIS Analysis/The Dry Lake SEZ is 3.2 miles north of corridor	Opportunity
<b>ENERGY PLANNING CONCERNS</b>							
<b>Location-Specific Physical Barrier</b>							
37-39 .005	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Multiple transmission lines, pipelines, I-15, and a railroad	MP 3.4 to 5.0	GIS Analysis/Multiple transmission lines, pipelines, I-15, and a railroad crossing the corridor limit the potential for additional projects.	Not a constraint. Corridor 37-39 overlaps with Clark County ROW corridor (N-51809) as established pursuant to Public Law 101-67, for the development of transportation and utility facilities. ROW corridor N-51809 allows Clark County to permit other parties to use the lands within the right-of-way, and provides BLM the right to permit other uses in the right-of-way, compatible with the use as provided for by N-51809. Proposed project siting and collocation alternatives to address impacts

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							would be analyzed as part of the project specific environmental analysis required under NEPA and other federal law.
<b>Jurisdictional Concern</b>							
37-39 .006	DOD	Nellis AFB	Clark County, NV	Nellis AFB	MP 1.4	GIS Analysis/In close proximity, but not intersecting, Nellis AFB 1.4 miles to the southwest	Not a constraint. Proposed project siting and collocation alternatives to address impacts would be analyzed as part of the project specific environmental analysis required under NEPA and other federal law. Coordination with FAA and Nellis AFB on structures exceeding 199 feet required.
<b>LAND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS</b>							
<b>Ecology: Special Status Plant Species</b>							
37-39 .007	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Desert tortoise habitat	MP 0 to 1.2	GIS Analysis/Desert tortoise habitat crosses corridor	Not a constraint. Desert tortoise habitat exists throughout corridor.
<b>Ecology: Special Status Animal Species</b>							
37-39 .008				TCAs	Data needed	RFI/Reroute to avoid siting new facilities in TCAs without existing transmission, and minimize additional transmission siting in TCAs.	Not a constraint. Impacts to connectivity habitat can be mitigated and minimized through ESA Sec. 7 consultation with the USFWS.
37-39 .009				Priority 1 and 2 connectivity habitat.	Data needed.	RFI	Not a constraint. Impacts to connectivity habitat can be mitigated and minimized through ESA Sec. 7 consultation with the USFWS.
<b>Hydrology: Surface Water</b>							
37-39 .010	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Gypsum Wash	MP 8.6	Gypsum Wash intersects with corridor	Not a constraint. Wash can be spanned by linear utilities or utilities can be buried under wash.
<b>Lands and Realty: Transportation</b>							
37-39 .011	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern	Clark County,	Rail lines	MP 4.5 to 4.8	GIS Analysis/Rail lines cross corridor	Not a constraint. Consistent with BLM right-of-way regulations;

ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/ Opportunity	Length of Affected Corridor (by Milepost [MP])	Source/Context	BLM Review and Analysis
		Nevada DO	NV				notification to adjacent ROW holders would occur.
37-39 .012	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	I-15	MP 4.8 to 5.0	GIS Analysis/I-15 crosses corridor	Not a constraint. Consistent with BLM right-of-way regulations; notification to adjacent ROW holders would occur.
<b>Specially Designated Areas</b>							
37-39 .013	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Coyote Springs ACEC	MP 0 to 1.1	GIS Analysis	Not a constraint. ACEC is designated avoidance area except within utility corridors.
37-39 .014	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	Old Spanish National Historic Trail	MP 7.9 to 8.4	GIS Analysis/Old Spanish National Historic Trail crosses corridor	No, this is not a constraint, unless proposed projects could not be mitigated and stipulated to avoid impacts to the OSNHT. The OSNHT is a congressionally designated corridor. Adherence to IOPs would be required, however, note that the Agency is responsible for cultural compliance and tribal consultation; not the applicant or the applicant's contractor. The applicant may assist with the approval of the agency. Under review with the BLM, FS, and NPS Trail Administrators.
<b>Visual Resources</b>							
37-39 .015	BLM	Las Vegas FO, Southern Nevada DO	Clark County, NV	VRM Class III	Entire corridor	GIS Analysis/Entire corridor is within VRM Class III area	Not a constraint. However, restrictions would be applied commensurate with designated VRM class; development must be in conformance with VRM objectives outlined in BLM Manual 8400.

Abbreviations: ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern; AFB = Air Force Base; BLM = Bureau of Land Management; DO = District Office; ESA = Endangered Species Act; FO = Field Office; FS = Forest Service; IOP = Interagency Operating Procedures; GIS = geographic information system; MP = milepost; PEIS = Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; RFI = Request for Information; ROW = right-of-way; SEZ = Solar Energy Zone; TCA = Tortoise Conservation Area; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; VRM = Visual Resource Management; WECC = Western Energy Coordinating Council; WWEC = West-wide Energy Corridor



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