



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 National Trails System – Salt Lake City
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

West-Wide Energy Corridor
 Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
 Room 8H-033
 U.S. Department of Energy
 1000 Independence Avenue, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20585

July 10, 2006

Dear Sirs:

This office of the National Park Service administers the California, Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, Pony Express, Santa Fe, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, and Old Spanish National Historic Trails, among several others. We offer the following comments regarding the West-wide preliminary draft map of potential energy corridors.

First, we appreciate the efforts of your planning staff in working with us and the federal agencies that directly manage National Historic Trail to identify sensitive resource areas that should be avoided by these corridors. Judging from the draft Wyoming map, the proposed energy corridors in that state would avoid the highly sensitive area of South Pass, which we mentioned to your planners as a particular concern.

In general, the proposed corridors appear to avoid National Historic Trail insofar as possible. However, there remain some areas of potential concern, namely: the northern alignment in southwestern Wyoming from the Seedska-dee/Green River area west (Oregon, California, Pony Express, and Mormon Pioneer NHTs); southwestern Idaho from Glens Ferry/Three Island Crossing to Boise (Oregon NHT); northern and the southern tip of Nevada (California and Old Spanish NHTs); southern New Mexico (El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT); and northeast California (the Applegate route of the California NHT). Because of the scale of the published corridor route maps, we cannot determine definitively whether the proposed routes could impact National Historic Trail in those areas; in fact, the proposed alignments could be within existing transportation or energy corridors or otherwise disturbed areas. However, our own maps indicate that visible trail remnants exist in some of the areas listed above, and we urge that such remnants be avoided.



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FAX

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Pages to follow: 2 Including cover 3
Subject: comment on West-wide energy corridor proposal

Comments:

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